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POLL RESULTS

DO you support a U.S. military plan to lease Pagan?

Yes	142
No	111
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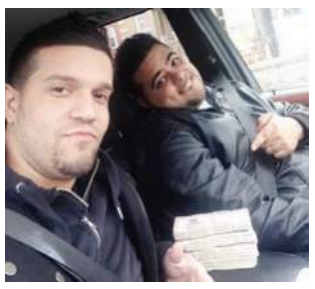
Sunday, February 3, 2013

INSIDE

BUSINESS



A bloodless bank heist nets more than $45 million worldwide.

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WORLD

Two car bombs explode near Turkey's border with Syria, killing 43.

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LIFE & STYLE

Tobey Maguire and Leonardo DiCaprio are finally together in 'Gatsby.'

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Aeronautical Dolphins to meet with President Obama

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fresh off their biggest win at the national Real World Design Challenge in Washington D.C., members of the CNMI Aeronautical Dolphins are set to meet with U.S. President Barrack Obama.

Their teacher-coach, John Raulerson, disclosed to the State Board of Education Friday that, as RWDC champion of the year, the team will have dinner during a courtesy call on the president. A letter is now being drafted to finalize the trip details, he added.

The CNMI team is composed of Jill Ann

See AERONAUTICAL on Page 4

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Members of the State Board of Education, led by chair Herman T. Guerrero, and Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., pose for a group photo with members of the Marianas High School Aeronautical Dolphins who recently won the championship at the national Real World Design Challenge in Washington, D.C. The CNMI team, being the competition's champion, is set for a courtesy visit with U.S. President Barrack Obama at the White House.

AT THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2013

Labor Ombudsman's Office closing

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Petition to keep office open in the works

After some 14 years of operations since 1999 and four years since the federal government took control of local immigration in 2009, the U.S. Labor Ombudsman's Office in the CNMI will be closing at the end of fiscal year 2013, an official with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* during the weekend.

A petition to keep the office open, however, has been launched.

Fiscal year 2013 ends on Sept. 30, 2013.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) separately said that congressional offices were recently informed of acting Interior Assistant Secretary Eileen

See LABOR on Page 4

300 proposed changes to US immigration bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Kilili: CNMI improved status language untouched

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said Saturday that none of the 300 amendments U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee members want included in the comprehensive immigration reform bill would change Section 2109—the CNMI-specific provision allowing long-term foreign workers to apply for improved status.

The U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee began on Thursday what Sablan's office said could be several weeks of work considering amendments to S.744.

S. 744, the most ambitious bill to reform national immigration in decades,

See IMMIGRATION on Page 4

Cleanup gives a glimpse of La Fiesta's forgotten beauty

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

With rakes, machetes, grass mowers, other cleaning equipment, and determination, Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider led members of their Cabinet and other volunteers in cleaning up the surroundings of the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque last Friday, exposing the forgotten beauty and grandeur of what was once a tourism gem in the north.

From 8am to 12pm, key government officials rolled up their sleeves to "walk the talk" in cleaning up the island one tourist site at a time.

Inos and Hofschneider used machetes to cut down unwanted vegetation that covered La Fiesta's façade for several years.

The governor said this cleanup is part of the tourism task force's efforts to improve tourism sites, at a time when arrivals have been steadily climbing.

It was a monumental task to take on the thick vegetation that have taken over the property but the Inos administration gamely took up the challenge.

See CLEANUP on Page 4

The governor's special adviser for management and budget, Vicky Villagomez, center, and two other government employees, help clean up the front side of the former La Fiesta Mall on Friday. Today, passersby could glimpse what was once an open-air shopping center in San Roque, courtesy of the cleanup that Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, along with Cabinet members and other employees, did for four hours on Friday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

'Quichocho induced landowner to file false docs' PAGE 3
Indictment filed vs Dynasty in federal court. PAGE 8

BIBA Marianas!

Japanese group prays for peace at Marpi

Under the shadow of Suicide Cliff were hundreds plunged to their deaths at the close of World War II, more than 70 members of the Nenpou Shinkyo prayed for peace yesterday morning at the Japanese Peace Memorial at the Last Command Post in Marpi.

Led by Rev. Ryoku Okeya, members of the Buddhist sect chanted prayers in Japanese not only for peace throughout the world but also meditated to honor casualties of the Pacific War in the CNMI.

"Saipan's vast and beautiful nature is what many would refer to as 'paradise.' However, until this day, many remnants of World War II still scatter throughout the islands—reminding us of the cost freedom was," said Okeya in his remarks after the service.

The Nenpou Shinkyo high priest also reminded everyone to never forget the tragic battle that was fought on Saipan during the war, which resulted in an "appalling and horrible scene that extended throughout the islands."

He said as many as 55,000 soldiers and civilians "sacrificed" themselves during the war.

» Offers flowers to WWII dead

"Today, we continuously pray for removal of all conflict, to rid [ourselves] of poverty, and to expel the act of evil from Earth. We dream of a world with no boundaries and no discrimination against race or religion, a world that is united with peace, love, and harmony," added Okeya.

He said that Nenpou Shinkyo erected a cenotaph at Banzai Cliff that resembles a pair of praying hands, explicitly to symbolize the wish for lasting peace as well in honor of the "lost spirits during the tragic war."

Gov. Eloy S. Inos graced the service and thanked Okeya and his Nenpou Shinkyo members for once again visiting Saipan, praying for peace, and honoring the casualties of war.

He also said that the CNMI, Saipan in particular, is proud and honored that it is only one of the few places outside of Japan to have this kind of peace monument.

In a statement distributed before the service, Inos also echoed Okeya's call for preserving peace around the world.

"Because of the historic battles and conflicts have taken place here many years ago, we are constantly reminded of the horrors of war."

"Through the annual pilgrimage of organizations such as yours to pray for the souls of those who died and for world peace, we find a greater spirit. We can forget, for a moment, the horrors of war; and pin hopes on friendship, love, and harmony."

Inos also said that the CNMI, a former Japanese territory, and Japan have a mutual friendship and will always be tied together historically and culturally.

"Japan is a strong ally and a major trading partner of the United States and the CNMI in particular. Our heritage and cultural upbringing comes with a great deal of Japanese influence. Together, we have achieved forgiveness and reconciliation. We never fail to remember how far we have come and where we came from," his statement read.

Aside from Inos, also in attendance during the service were Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, Japan Consul Koji Hino, Marianas Visitors Authority deputy managing director Judy Flores, and PMT general manager Fukujo Kazusuke.

After the service at the Japanese Peace Memorial, Okeya and the rest of the Nenpou Shinkyo contingent drove down to Banzai Cliff to pray and offer flowers to the memorial there.

The group was accompanied by former Saipan resident Ayako Matsumoto. She said the group totaled 75, including herself and her husband.

Matsumoto said majority of the Nenpou Shinkyo members who are visiting hail from Hokaido (23 in all), while six are from Okinawa. The others are from other places in Japan.

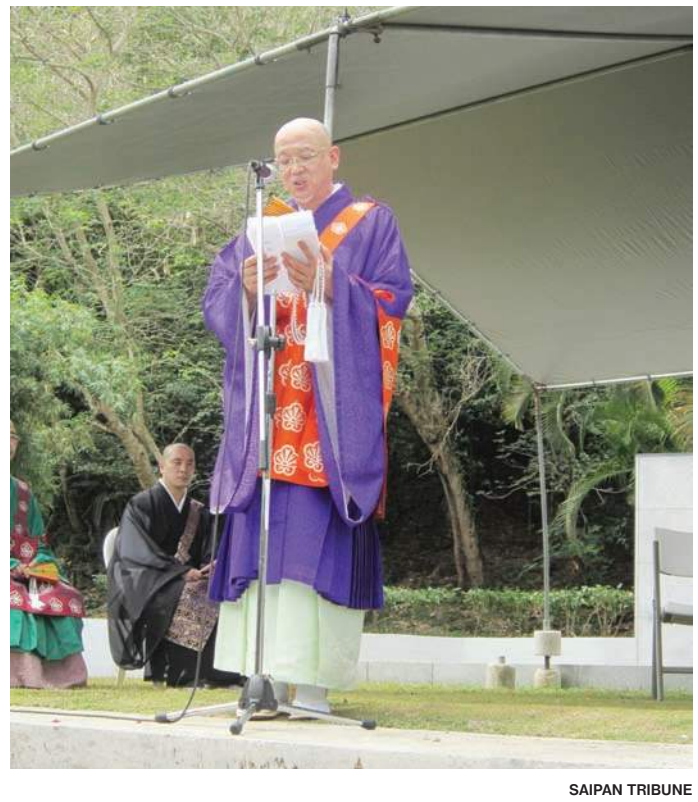
The day before, members visited Banzai Cliff and the Last Command Post to clean up the area. Some six members also performed a traditional Ryukyu dance at the Taste of the Marianas Saturday evening. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Members of the Nenpou Shinkyo Buddhist sect offer flowers to World War II dead during a visit and prayer service at the Japanese Peace Memorial yesterday.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Majority of the Nenpou Shinkyo members who are visiting hail from Hokaido.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Nenpou Shinkyo Buddhis high priest Rev. Ryoku Okeya reminded everyone to never forget the tragic battle that was fought on Saipan during the war.

Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

China Golf Show 2013

To reach potential golfers in China, the **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** and its travel partners attended the **China Golf Show 2013** on March 22-24, 2013, at **China National Convention Center**.

The golf show attracted more than 400 golf brands and 4,000 professional visitors who had the opportunity to learn about golfing in the Northern Marianas from representatives of **Laolao Bay Golf Resort, Mariana Resort & Spa, Coral Ocean Point Resort, Century Tours,** and the MVA.

The annual China Golf Show (CGS) is the most influential event of its type in the world's largest and fastest growing market of China. CGS is a leading sourcing and networking event covering the entire supply chain in China – from golf equipment and accessories to golf technology, golf course construction, maintenance, and golf facility management.

The MVA's booth was located in the U.S. pavilion organized by **American Consulate General Beijing**. Flyers, brochures, product sheets, and small maps from the Northern Marians were distributed. Information was also provided on golf courses, prices, hotel accommodations, flight information and land services.

Judge: Quichocho induced landowner to file false docs

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Attorney Ramon Quichocho, who has just been nominated to become a judge, has been found to have induced a landowner to violate public policy by filing false documents with the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

In an order issued Friday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo said that Quichocho's conduct of inducing landowner Joaquin Q. Atalig to breach a land lease agreement was improper.

Saipan Tribune sent Quichocho an email requesting comments. There was no reply as of press time yesterday.

On Thursday, acting governor Jude Hofschneider nominated Quichocho to be a Superior Court judge. The nomination requires the Senate's advice and consent.

Govendo ruled that Atalig's termination of ground lease for two parcels of land near Ladder Beach was invalid because the plaintiffs, Shinji Fujie and Toshin Group International Inc., did not abandon the premises.

Fujie and Toshin Group's lease of the land remains valid, said Govendo.

On the plaintiffs' claim that Quichocho is liable for interfering with the lease agreement, the judge it is possible that Quichocho gave negligent good-faith advice to Atalig when he advised and encouraged his client to terminate the lease.

Another possibility, Govendo said, is that Quichocho knew that the claim of abandonment was baseless and acted in bad faith when he advised and assisted Atalig in terminating the lease.

Whether Quichocho acted in good or bad faith is a genuine issue of material fact, Govendo said.

The issue will now proceed to trial to determine if Quichocho's actions were privileged and for damages, if any.

According to court papers, the plaintiffs leased the two parcels of land from Atalig on June 13, 2006, for 55 years and paid $363,000. Less than three years later, the plaintiffs were informed that Atalig had terminated the lease, with the advice and assistance of Quichocho.

Atalig inspected the property in 2009 and became convinced that it was "clearly abandoned." On Sept. 30, 2009, Atalig filed a document with the Commonwealth Recorders Office that purported to terminate the lease.

Plaintiffs filed in 2010 the lawsuit against Quichocho and Atalig for slander of title, breach of lease, breach of the implied covenant of good faith, interference with contract.

In his order on Friday, Govendo ruled that Atalig did not have the authority to terminate the lease because plaintiffs did not breach the lease by abandoning the premises.

Govendo said that Atalig submitted photographs of the premises showing bundles of wire left sitting on the property.

"That's it. That is literally all the evidence that Atalig has mustered to show plaintiffs' abandonment of the premises," Govendo said.

Govendo said the plaintiffs, on the other hand, have offered substantial evidence showing that they did not abandon the premises.

In finding Quichocho and Atalig liable for slander of title, the judge said the two acted with knowledge of falsity or with reckless disregard for the truth when they published the "termination of lease."

He said the slander of title matter and breach of lease issue will proceed to trial on plaintiffs' remedies against Quichocho and Atalig.

Govendo noted that this is not the first time that Quichocho and Atalig have unilaterally terminated a 55-year land lease, referring to a case involving the same land and another investor, Sin Ho Nam.

Nam sued Quichocho and Atalig in 2010 for breaching a land lease agreement when they terminated a 55-year lease less than two years later, despite having already paid them $218,000.

In September 2011, U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark W. Bennett found Quichocho and Atalig liable to Nam for breach of contract.

In his order, Bennett said while contract law does not contain a "smell test," the facts of this real estate contract dispute between a Saipan lawyer lessor and a Korean businessman lessee "reek with the pungency of a five-week-old, unrefrigerated dead red-grilled emperor fish."

The parties reached a settlement agreement and the re-filed case was dismissed in November 2012.

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CLEANUP

From Page 1

"We're at a point wherein we've pretty much overcome the major stuff [of bringing in tourists]," Inos told *Saipan Tribune*.

The task now, he said, is to make sure that tourists who come here see the real beauty of Saipan. He said if it takes literally cleaning up the tourist sites, then that's what his administration would do.

Today, motorists passing the old La Fiesta Mall would once again get a glimpse of what it was like—a huge open-air shopping center with three main plazas and water features. Although almost all its glass windows are now broken, the mere size of the area is still a sight to behold.

Flowers in bloom and trees are also adding to the now serene environment. The former mall used to house luxury shops like Rolex, Chanel, Guess, and restaurants such as Tony Roma's.

It was also a favorite spot for trick-or-treating on Halloween, Easter egg hunts, snowman building, art shows and dance competitions.

The Inos administration continues to invite private companies to revitalize the former La Fiesta Mall and make it an important tourist destination once again.

Every year, the government spends about $200,000 to pay for the lease of the property where the former mall sits.

"We're trying to get somebody to take over that obligation plus revitalize the property. We're willing to put that property to good use… We're still open to any kind of project that might be at least, if anything, to maintain the property. We don't want it to [further] lose its value," the governor said.

Martha Teregeyo, a customs inspector for 16 years, said although the cleanup was tough, "it's something very good for our island and tourism." She said she used to visit the La Fiesta Mall when it was still open.

Lani Tarope, 19, a Workforce Investment Agency intern at the Division of Customs, said the cleanup was worth the effort.

"It wasn't that fun but it's a good experience. I remember coming here as a child with my family. Helping to improve it a bit is a different experience," she said while resting by the water feature in front of the former mall.

Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider said that having government officials and employees clean up the former La Fiesta Mall surrounding gives credence to the slogan, "tourism is everybody's business."

"I commend Cabinet members, their staff and others who took the time to help in the cleanup," he added.

Cabinet members and key officials were on hand to do their part: Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan, Community and Cultural Affairs acting secretary Laura Ogumoro, Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, acting Customs director Joe Mafnas, governor's special adviser for management and budget Vicky Villagomez, Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas, and countless other government employees.

Minimum security inmates under close supervision of the Department of Corrections also helped.

"It's a main drag here; tourists pass by this every day. We've always been talking about it. At the last Cabinet meeting, we said we have to start doing something about it, let's just do it, let's get out. People who are not in critical services joined, skeletal staff remained at the office to answer phones and take care of daily business," the governor said.

After the cleanup, participants proceeded to the PauPau Beach pavilion for lunch before returning to their offices.

The governor said this is not the last time that he and Cabinet members will clean up tourist sites.

He also said there are still a lot to be cleaned up at the former La Fiesta Mall, especially at the back side. But he said his administration would like to make sure thick vegetation would not reclaim the property.

The former The Palms Resort that fronts the property is also up for renovation.

IMMIGRATION

From Page 1

grants a pathway to citizenship for some 11 million undocumented immigrants in America.

Sablan worked with the U.S. Senate's "Gang of Eight," which crafted the bill, to include a provision on the CNMI's long-term foreign workers.

The delegate said the Senate Judiciary Committee, at its first "mark-up" of the bill, disposed of 33 of the proposed amendments, completing work on the border security title.

A mark-up refers to the process by which a U.S. congressional committee debates, amends, and rewrites proposed legislation.

Sablan said four of the bipartisan members of the "Gang of Eight" sit on the Committee. They are Charles Schumer (D-New York), Senate Majority Whip Richard Durbin (D-Illinois), Lindsey Graham (R-South Carolina), and Jeff Flake (R-Arizona).

Also on the Committee, with an eye on the effects of the bill in the Pacific, is Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), Sablan said.

Under the bill's Section 2109, six groups of long-term foreigners in the CNMI will be allowed to apply for a CNMI-only permanent resident status within months of the bill's enactment into law. These include those who have been legally working in the CNMI since at least 2003.

After a five-year waiting period, these individuals with CNMI-only permanent resident status could start applying for a U.S. permanent resident status or "green card." This is a pathway to U.S. citizenship.

Rene Reyes, president of the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. or Mahal, said yesterday that just like many other foreign workers and their families, Mahal is hoping that the CNMI-specific provision of the immigration bill will remain.

"We are hopeful. Maybe more hopeful now than ever before," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee resumes its work on the bill on May 14.

The proceedings can be viewed live on the Internet at http://www.judiciary.senate.gov.

Meanwhile, the U.S. House of Representatives has yet to release its own immigration reform bill.

AERONAUTICAL

From Page 1

Arada, Clariza Magat, Stephanie Xiao, Cecilia Huixin Xu, John Paul Aglubat, and Jessica Bigueras.

The group swept the top award at the RWDC competition and were individually awarded a $50,000 scholarship to any campuses of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. The team was also the presented with of the Cessna Award, FAA Award, and IAAA Award at the competition.

Raulerson promised to share with Obama the unique community that is the CNMI. He pointed out that winning the national RWDC championship put the CNMI in the world map.

"We're excited to share with President Obama our experience and the many wonderful things about our small islands," said Raulerson, describing the U.S. President as among the big supporters of the RWDC competition.

The Aeronautical Dolphins bested over 30 states to win the national contest.

The Real World Design Challenge aims to transform the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education in the U.S. by challenging schools to come up with design solutions to specific problems. This year, the challenge was for teams to design a small unmanned aircraft system (or unmanned aircraft vehicle) for search and rescue missions.

In a PowerPoint presentation Friday, team members detailed how they came up with design solutions that could help pave the way for future small unmanned aircraft vehicles and future aviation advancements.

Group members said their mathematics and calculus subjects greatly helped them accomplish their goal.

Raulerson shared with board members the group's unforgettable journey, the amount of work and time they put in, and the dedication and commitment shown by each member to bring pride and honor to their school—Marianas High School—and the CNMI as a whole.

Members of the Board of Education were amazed at the students' project. BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero said this shows that, despite the lack of funding, public school students continue to excel both in academics and extra-curricular activities.

LABOR

From Page 1

Sobeck's decision to close the federal ombudsman's office in the CNMI.

For years, the ombudsman's office has helped refer to proper CNMI and federal agencies thousands of foreign workers who were victims of labor abuses, human trafficking, sex trafficking, illegal recruitment, wage theft, and contract violations, among other things.

The office also helped victims of criminal acts such as rape, assault and battery, false imprisonment and torture.

OIA said the closure is a result of a "dramatic shift" in the U.S. Labor Ombudsman's Office work—"from working on serious labor and trafficking violations to assisting individual alien workers with more routine immigration and labor issues."

"During the 1990s and early 2000s, a Federal Ombudsman was necessary to assist victims of egregious labor and immigration violations. It has now been nearly five years since DHS [Department of Homeland Security] has taken over immigration responsibilities in CNMI pursuant to the terms of the CNRA [Consolidated Natural Resources Act], and since the last of the garment factories in the CNMI closed," an OIA official said in response to *Saipan Tribune* email questions.

Sablan, as well as OIA, said the ombudsman position is not a permanent position within OIA.

"And although there are funds for the position, federal personnel regulations prohibited further staffing for this temporary position," Sablan said.

The delegate added that OIA will "wind down" the ombudsman's office over a six-month period, allowing time to figure out what functions remain relevant and who can absorb some of its functions.

Sablan said the U.S. Attorney, the FBI, and the U.S. Departments of Labor and Homeland Security could absorb some of the functions that are being done by the ombudsman's office.

"And, where it can, the congressional office will continue to provide assistance to those who need help," he said in response to media questions.

'OIA field representative'

While the ombudsman's office is closing, an OIA field representative will be hired. This position was previously held by Jeff Schorr, who retired a few months ago.

"OIA is in the process of hiring a field representative that will be able to continue to work with federal partners, the CNMI government, and local community to continue to monitor and help address concerns," OIA said.

Sablan said OIA's Northern Mariana Islands field representative position could be fashioned to pick up some of the ombudsman's work now that OIA has received the "go ahead" to hire that staff.

Foreign workers expressed concern that the ombudsman's office closure will be the end of assistance to those with problems relating to worker rights, human rights, labor and immigration, among other things.

But OIA said foreign workers will be able to request general assistance from the field representative.

"There are legal aid organizations in the CNMI where foreign workers will be able to receive more technical and legal assistance," OIA added.

Bonifacio Sagana, president of worker group Dekada, said yesterday that the ombudsman's office is a "big loss" to foreign workers in the CNMI who will no longer have an agency to turn to when they need help.

"Besides, the ombudsman's office has case workers that can translate for workers needing help—Chinese, Filipino, Bangladesh. It is sad to know that the ombudsman's office is closing. Foreign workers will be at a loss," said Sagana.

Sagana is among those helped by the Labor Ombudsman's Office when his employer improperly terminated him.

"They were there to help, referred my case to proper agencies. An attorney took my case and represented me even though I didn't have money at the time. If the office closes, all foreign workers would need to pay for assistance," he said.

Rene Reyes, founding president of the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. or Mahal, said the ombudsman's office has been a tremendous help to foreign workers.

"Ombudsman Pam Brown is always there to help, whether it's a foreign worker who was forced to sleep at the airport because she wasn't allowed to board the plane back to the CNMI or help those who have removal proceedings against them and it's not their fault," said Reyes.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday the administration has yet to receive any official communication on this matter.

Legacy

Currently, Pam Brown is the federal labor ombudsman in the CNMI. The post was also previously held by Jim Benedetto.

OIA said they are "proud of the work the Federal Labor Ombudsman and her staff have provided to the alien population of the CNMI."

"Without their diligent efforts, victims of serious trafficking and labor abuses would have had a difficult time raising their claims. Through the hard work of the office, local task forces have been established and the case load of the office has shifted from these serious violations to more routine labor and immigration concerns," OIA said.

OIA also said the Federal Labor Ombudsman has always been a term employee and not a permanent federal employee.

"The Ombudsman has had several successful positions in her career and we are confident she will continue to valuably serve the CNMI community in her next endeavor. The caseworkers have also been invaluable to the office. The caseworkers are contractors whose contract terms expire at the end of this fiscal year," OIA said.

Sablan also recognizes that since opening in the late 1990s, the ombudsman's office has provided help to thousands of people, who often had nowhere to turn.

"For that reason, I also asked for a formal accounting of the services the office has been providing during the FWOIA oversight hearing on the Office of Insular Affairs fiscal year 2014 budget last month. I look forward to receiving the administration's response to that question. We need to understand what needs still exist in the much-changed environment since the office was first established and make sure that people can continue to receive any assistance they still need," the delegate said.

Petition

Florida-based human rights advocate and former CNMI teacher Wendy Doromal posted last night a petition requesting to keep the Federal Labor Ombudsman's Office open.

She said she will also be contacting members of Congress and officials to ask for help in keeping the office open.

"Over the years, I have witnessed some really poor decisions and ignorant moves made by federal officials in regard to the plight of alien workers in the CNMI, but this one tops them all. I am shocked, angry and dismayed," Doromal said on her blog, Unheard No More.

The online petition is available at http://www.thepetitionsite.com/836/043/730/keep-the-cnmi-federal-ombudsman-office-open/?taf_id=9414091&cid=fb_na.

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PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

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Bill changing scholarship rules now heads to governor

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After a lengthy, impassioned debate and public comments, the House of Representatives passed Thursday afternoon a Senate bill that changes a provision of the CNMI Scholarship Regulations that the bill's proponents say would give students applying for scholarship the freedom to choose where to enroll besides the Northern Marianas College. NMC, meanwhile, asked lawmakers to allow the scholarship rules to remain in their current form.

Senate Bill 18-24 passed the House by a vote of 11-4 with five absences.

The bill now goes to the governor for action.

Sen. Pete Reyes (IR-Saipan), author of the bill, testified before House members, saying that Section 5 of the CNMI Scholarship Regulations is restrictive and "should not hold hostage" students who want to pursue courses not available at NMC.

"It's NMC's job to convince students to stay with NMC but they should not force them to stay with NMC. [Students] are being held hostage," Reyes told House members.

Section 5 of the CNMI Scholarship Regulations require that a new applicant beginning in the fall of 2012 will only receive financial assistance if the applicant is either enrolled at NMC or at another accredited institution, and such applicant has already obtained an associate degree.

Reyes said that repealing this section will make available scholarships for new applicants, whether they are enrolled at NMC or any other accredited institution.

'Believe'

The House dissolved into a committee of the whole to ask questions of Scholarship Board vice chair Carol Hosono Thursday morning. However, voting on the bill didn't come until after lunch break.

Hosono pointed out that despite concerns about NMC's accreditation, the institution remains accredited. She said the college needs the support of the community but added that the CNMI gives scholarship money to students to go off island when there is an accredited college on island.

While it is true that NMC remains accredited, House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan) said the uncertainty whether it can maintain such accreditation does not instill confidence in students.

He pointed to NMC's "Believe" sticker or slogan. "I think NMC needs to do its part to solidify its foundation. We don't need to have this policy in place [Section 5]. Things have to happen for the students to 'believe'," Deleon Guerrero said.

Elias Rangamar, a parent of a student wanting to study in the U.S., said he supports SB 18-24 because he believes students should not be denied access to scholarships only because they don't want to enroll at NMC.

Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan) said the bill should be further reviewed because of its negative impact on NMC.

SB 18-24 passed the House by a vote of 11-4, with Ogumoro, Teresita Santos (R-Rota), Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), and George Camacho (R-Saipan) voting "no."

The 11 who voted "yes" were Reps. Antonio Agulto (IR-Saipan), Antonio Benavente (IR-Saipan), Roman Benavente (IR-Saipan), Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian), Frank Dela Cruz (IR-Saipan), Larry Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan), Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan), Mario Taitano (IR-Saipan), Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan), and Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan).

Absent were floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan), Reps. Ralph Yumul (IR-Saipan), Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan), Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan), and Richard Seman (R-Saipan).

'Disappointment'

Leo Pangelinan, NMC dean of Student Services, later told reporters that he's "a little disappointed but I do respect a lot of the comments made and the views shared today."

"Obviously people are very passionate about how we invest in students and it's a situation where as a college, now we have to brace for students possibly choosing to take the CNMI Scholarship off island and figure out how to improve our ability to market and appeal to our CNMI residents…" he said.

Pangelinan, who was in the House chamber from morning to afternoon, shared with lawmakers NMC president Sharon Hart's written testimony on SB 18-24.

More than 700 Filipinos cast vote in field operation

A total of 710 overseas Filipino workers in the CNMI participated in their country's 2013 midterm election through a field voting conducted on Saipan by the Philippine Consulate General in Guam.

The field voting was held at the social hall of the Kristo Rai Church from Thursday, May 9, to Saturday, May 10.

Consul Edgar Tomas Q. Auxilian said he was very happy with the turnout, which he characterized as peaceful and very orderly.

Auxilian led a three-man group for the field voting. Francisco Magno served as the special ballot custody and reception group chair while Allan Tangayan was his staff. Auxilian himself was the deputized special board of election chair.

In a text message to *Saipan Tribune*, United Filipino Organization president Annamae Adaza said that Auxilian told her that a total of 710 ballots were cast during the three-day exercise.

Magno said they received 117 ballots on Day 1, 242 on the second day, and factoring Adaza's 710 total ballot figure, received 351 during the last day.

Aside from about five would-be voters whose names were not on their list, Auxilian said the 2013 field voting operation on Saipan was without incident.

"We want to give our countrymen here on Saipan a chance to vote and exercise their right to suffrage. It's a very important political exercise and we believe that they contribute a lot. The only chance for our *kababayan* to vote was through this field voting as some have not gotten their ballots and some have yet to receive theirs so we thought if we come here those who want to claim their ballots can vote. It's also part of DFA's [Department of Foreign Affairs] goal to have as many of our overseas workers participate in elections," he said. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Man gets 18 mos. for 'ice' trafficking

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramon V. Manglona has slapped an 18-month prison term against a man who pleaded guilty to being a part of a conspiracy to traffic methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan.

After completing his sentence, Jordan Mendiola Reyes will be placed under three years of supervised release.

Reyes was required to perform 100 hours of community service and pay a $100 court assessment fee.

Assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton prosecuted the case. Reyes was represented by court-appointed counsel Mark Scoggins.

A federal grand jury indicted Reyes in August 2012 with one count of conspiracy to distribute "ice" and two counts of distribution of "ice."

Authorities arrested Reyes in Tacoma, Washington and brought him to Saipan.

In February 2013, Reyes signed a plea deal and pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute "ice." ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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ON GREEN GLOBE SOLUTIONS PROPOSAL:

CUC: Much work remains ahead

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. fully supports the proposed project laid out by Green Globe Solutions but, in order to make it happen, more solid work needs to be done, according to acting CUC executive director Alan W. Fletcher.

"CUC fully supports developing strategies that reduce fossil fuel dependency, while providing reliable generation and distribution at the least cost possible for consumers," Fletcher said.

Green Globe Solutions is proposing to build a $200 million, 40-megawatt wind and solar energy project on Tinian and Saipan that is tied to a proposed privatization of CUC's power production and distribution for at least 25 years. This project is also intended to buoy the development of a Lower Base industrial park and shipyard in the future.

Fletcher described Green Energy Solutions' recent presentations as "very interesting."

"They are passionate about their project and have some great ideas. However, there is some work that we need to accomplish as we consider the CNMI's energy needs. That work entails good planning, solid engineering, and sound economics," he added.

That includes the completion of a Renewable Energy Integration Study that will extensively analyze the island's power grid to understand where and how much renewable energy can be introduced into the system, while maintaining grid stability.

This analysis, Fletcher said, is currently out for bid.

Also, the CNMI has to move forward on geothermal feasibility. Fletcher said the Commonwealth is currently working through bid protests that have slowed progress on the project.

Another requirement is the development of an Integrated Resource Plan, or IRP, a roadmap and agreed-upon strategy that will break the cycle of crisis management of energy in the CNMI.

"The IRP is an opportunity to review options for generation type and mix, system integrity and losses, conservation options, generation ownership and operating options, and financing options in a holistic and integrated fashion. The IRP combines solid technical review, energy forecasts, and economics to determine short, medium, and long-term effects of new base-load alternatives," explained Fletcher.

According to Fletcher, much of these works can be done in parallel with proposals such as Green Globe Solutions.

"Of course, as with any energy proposal comes competitive bidding and meeting the test of various laws on the books that deal with power-purchase, privatization, and operating agreements," he added.

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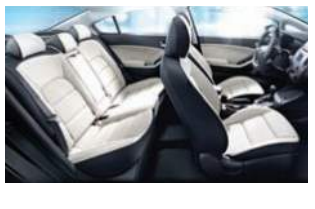

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Indictment filed vs Dynasty in federal court

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Federal agents seized $539,969.12 in U.S. funds and foreign and domestic currencies from Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino and want the sum forfeited, together with $16,551,492 more in funds and other property.

This developed as Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments, Ltd., which owns Tinian Dynasty, and two casino executives were indicted Thursday in the U.S. District Court.

The indictment charged Hong Kong Entertainment, VIP services manager George Que, and casino manager Tim Blythe with one count of conspiracy to cause a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report and nine counts of causing a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report.

Last April 25, federal agents arrested Que and executed warrants to seize Tinian Dynasty property and its money in bank accounts. Blythe, who was off-island at the time, is still at large.

According to the charges, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino allowed gamblers to conduct transactions involving more than $10,000 without filing CTRs with the U.S. government since September 2009 up to the present.

In May 2012, IRS Criminal Investigation initiated an undercover operation at Tinian Dynasty by having two agents pose as Russian gamblers wishing to use large amounts of money but not wanting any reports filed with the government about their use of cash.

According to the indictment, if convicted, each defendant shall forfeit to the U.S. government their right, title, and interest in a sum of $16,551,492 in money or property involved in the conspiracy plus $539,969.12 in U.S. funds and foreign and domestic currencies that were seized.

The indictment revealed that on April 25, federal agents seized from Hong Kong Entertainment's two accounts from Bank of Saipan U.S. funds amounting to $28,601.64 and $76,641.12, and two accounts from Bank of Guam totaling $98,106.96 and $878.78.

Agents also seized from Tinian Dynasty that same day $332,740.62 in foreign and domestic currencies. This brings the seized amount to a total of $539,969.12.

Agents of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation spearheaded the operation after a complaint was filed last April in federal court, charging the defendants with conspiracy to allow gamblers to conduct transactions involving more than $10,000 without filing the required paperwork with the U.S. government.

Federal law requires that a Currency Transaction Report or CTR be filed with the IRS by financial institutions, including casinos, for any currency transaction over $10,000.

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Flashback
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 13, 2004

CDA working on eventual lifting of loan moratorium
The Commonwealth Development Authority Board said it hopes to lift the moratorium on its loan program by the end of the year, citing beefed up collection efforts and positive financial projection. "We're looking forward to lifting it before the end of this year. We have the resources. We're finalizing our plan, our loan packages, but we need to be very careful on how we disburse it," said CDA board economic development committee chair Tom Quitugua in an interview after yesterday's board meeting. CDA said that over 70 percent of its loans are considered to be in the high delinquency rate category. Quitugua said that CDA aims to collect at least $2 million before the end of this year.

Taisakan asks for $100K allocation
Northern Islands mayor Valentin Taisakan is asking the Legislature for an immediate budget allocation of $100,000 to fund needed field trips to the islands and construction of typhoon shelters. He said his office lacks funds for charter trips to the Northern Islands, a chain of 10 islets. "It's difficult to go there because it's too costly and we have no funds," said the mayor. Going by boat to the islands costs $3,000 a day. A boat usually carries 30 passengers plus cargoes. Usually, he said, a boat stays in the Northern Islands for five to seven days. A trip by helicopter is more expensive at $900 per hour. A helicopter ride from Saipan to Pagan takes two hours.

May 13, 2005

Govt steps up cost-cutting measures
In view of projected declines in revenue this fiscal year, the Department of Finance will now stop the granting of 100 percent travel advances to government employees and officials, minimize travel using local funds, and curtail salary advances. Finance Secretary Fermin M. Atalig also said during yesterday's Cabinet meeting that his office would curtail reprogramming of local funds and avoid using local revenue to reimburse federal accounts. "We've go to do these to protect our local funds and control the bleeding of our general fund," said Atalig. He said that officials or employees do request for 100 percent travel advances, even if his department's existing policy only allows for a maximum of 80 percent.

Govt revenue up by $8M
The government's revenue increased by $8 million during the first six months of fiscal year compared to the same period last year, according to the Department of Finance. In a report yesterday, Finance Secretary Fermin M. Atalig said that government revenue as of March 31, 2005, totaled $102.5 million while last year, it only reached $94.4 million. "We realized an $8-million increase even when the community is concerned about garment decline," said Atalig during yesterday's Cabinet meeting at the Governor's Office. In terms of garment user fee, he said the reduction has been "minimal" so far. Garment user fee collected from October 2004 to March 2005 totaled $14.080 million, while during the same period in 2004, the figure was $14.811 million.

May 13, 2006

'Writeoff doesn't mean no payment'
The Fitial administration said yesterday that retirees will continue to receive their pension and current members are assured of their benefits even with the administration's proposed writeoff of $124 million unfunded liability. Tony Muna, the governor's special assistant for budget and management, said during a news briefing yesterday that existing members won't be stripped of their retirement benefits as some feared. "It won't affect the current retirees. It won't affect the vested employees. It won't take a penny away from them," said Muna. He said the proposal, the Defined Benefit Plan Rescue and Reform Act of 2006, merely aims "to put a brake on something that is out of control."

NMI to help honor merchant mariners
The CNMI will join the rest of the nation in honoring the contributions of merchant mariners on the occasion of National Maritime Day on May 22. Chuck Sayon, the National Park Service Deputy Superintendent for Saipan and Guam, said the islands would celebrate National Maritime Day by raising the Merchant Marine Flag at the American Memorial Park Court of Honor beginning at 8pm. The event will be followed by a small reception hosted by Seafix and Ambyth Shipping.

BOE endorses 'Support Our Heroes-to-Teach Week'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The State Board of Education has proclaimed May 13 to 17 as "Support Our Heroes-to-Teach Week" in a show of its commitment to honor the military service members, guard, reservists, JROTC instructors, and student enlistees for their invaluable contribution in not only safeguarding the nation but educating Commonwealth students as well.

» In honor of military service members-turned-classroom educators

In a ceremony Friday, BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero and Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., lauded these "heroes" for not only rescuing public schools when they were experiencing a shortage in classroom teachers but also for creating a difference in students' lives.

The Public School System created the JROTC program in 1996 and recruited retired military personnel from the U.S. Army to provide a program of instruction that will motivate young people to be better citizens, providing quality citizenship, character, and leadership development while fostering partnerships between PSS and the communities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The Troops-to-Teacher program, renamed Heroes-to-Teach in May 2012, was created in 2006 to help recruit teachers, to relieve teacher shortages, especially in math, science, special education, and other high-needs subject areas, and to assist military personnel in making successful transitions to second careers in teaching.

According to Guerrero, the board believes that that the Heroes-to-Teach program helps eligible military personnel begin a new career as teachers at PSS, where their knowledge and skills, including their technical experiences, are most needed.

This week, PSS and the Youth Advisory Panel will lead the "Heroes-to-Teach Week" campaign. The goal is to encourage every PSS student, faculty and staff, and PTA to show their support for the program, the Guards and Reserves, the JROTC instructors, and student enlistees. The board also encourages family members to show the same in honor of the courageous and patriotic duty of these personnel in standing tall and proud for the country.

According to Sablan, among the highlights of the celebration is a special luncheon and recognition for its Heroes-to-Teach members, and a separate gathering and entertainment for them and their families. She cited the success of many members who gave gone on to obtain degrees and are now classroom teachers and continue to work with the school system.

This school year, 33 former service members have chosen to become educators as their new career, according to Heroes-to-Teach adviser Jonas Barcinas. Of this number, five have obtained their degrees in elementary education while others are pursuing the same to become regular classroom teachers, he added.

According to PSS exit surveys, approximately 20 to 30 percent of graduating high school seniors enter the U.S. Armed Forces.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

State Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero proclaims May 13 through 17, 2013, as "Support Our Heroes-to-Teach Week" during a ceremony Friday at the BOE Conference Room while service members-turned-PSS educators look on.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Belated happy Mother's Day greetings to my most wonderful and loving mother Rosalina M. Magofna! I love you so much and thank you for all you have done for me and my mini family! We love you! Greetings come from MoLeslieAJRJ and the rest of the sisters.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy Mother's Day to my sister, Brigid Ann Magofna! Greetings come from your daughter Kiana and the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy Mother's Day to Jamie Michelle Acosta! Greetings come from your Princess Ha'anisha Jeshelle and Beng.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Maria Sablan, who is celebrating her special day today. May you be blessed with happiness and good health. Greetings coming out from Joseph, Teresa, Carlos, Conrad and Dan Wang, Vincent, Victor, and the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

The virtues of spit: Can lazy parenting produce healthier kids?

Anyone who has ever had an infant who uses a pacifier has confronted the situation: Baby lets binkie fall out of mouth. Binkie hits ground. Baby commences crying. Question arises: How to restore the pacifier to a hygienic state before returning it to baby and putting a stop to the shrieks?

You could go wash it carefully in the sink. You could even boil it in hot water to kill any germs that attached themselves. But maybe you're a harried parent with another kid who skinned her knee or a boss who's waiting. Or maybe you're at the park or the bus with no sanitizing materials handy.

Or maybe you're just too tired or lazy to bother. In that case, you may wipe it off, quickly suck on it to remove any debris and restore it to the infant, possibly uttering a silent prayer for forgiveness.

This last option may be common, but it risks a stern lecture from medical authorities. The website of the Mayo Clinic urges cleaning a pacifier by boiling it, putting it in the dishwasher or using soap and water. "Resist the temptation to 'rinse' the pacifier in your own mouth," it commands. "You'll only spread more germs to your baby."

So a lot of parents avoid doing this at all costs. Others do it but feel guilty about it.

But it turns out the parents who suppress their feelings of guilt may be suppressing something else as well—certain diseases that afflict children. A new study in the journal *Pediatrics* indicates that "parental sucking of their infant's pacifier may reduce the risk of allergy development, possibly via immune stimulation by microbes transferred to the infant via the parent's saliva."

In other words, the germs on your spit may not spread illness but prevent it, by giving the kid's immune system something useful to do. A mother's love is good, but a mother's slobber could be even better.

The *Pediatrics* researchers found that the kids whose parents took the path of least resistance were 88 percent less likely to have asthma and 63 percent less likely to develop eczema. They also had fewer food allergies.

The revelation is not entirely surprising. Sterility can backfire. Scientists have noticed that certain allergies have become more common as children's environments have become cleaner.

In 2007, Dr. Marc McMorris, a pediatric allergist at the University of Michigan Health System, told the website ScienceDaily, "We've developed a cleanlier lifestyle, and our bodies no longer need to fight germs as much as they did in the past. As a result, the immune system has shifted away from fighting infection to developing more allergic tendencies."

This latest discovery will come as a relief to a lot of parents who fall short of official standards of perfection. And the ones who always took every precaution to guard against nasty microbes? Cheer up. A little guilt—like a little dirt—never killed anyone.

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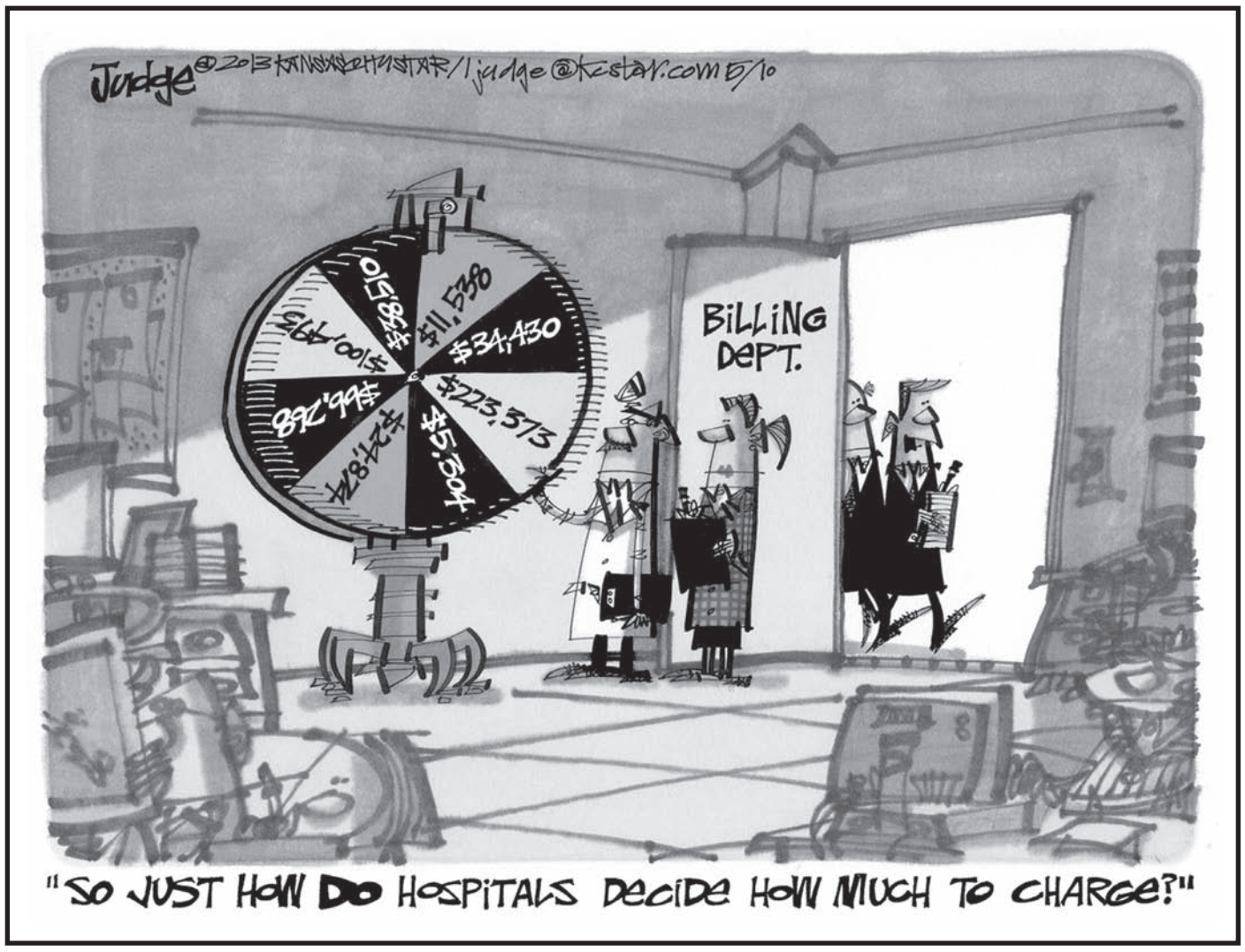


Mother's Day USA

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

I've already written of my *dia de mama mia* last Thursday. We do not intend to repeat our parenting tribute. It is the "mother as a woman" that interests us now, having touted in my own "political" journey the role of the women's revolution among the seven that accompanies my lifetime.

(For the curious, the other six are: ethnic minorities, awakened youth, unified academé, Third World assertiveness, business glocalization, and gray panthers.)

I encourage the Chinese students in my class to talk of the subject they already know about without reading a book—themselves. As individuals and members of various societies under the nebulous but imaginally homogenous China, one of the statistical items they live with is that "for every 45 Chinese females, there are 55 males." Attributed as a consequence of the one-child family policy of China and the preference for boys, where girls are either aborted or murdered, it reveals the depth of the patriarchal malady embedded in the culture.

However, a surprise came this week when one of the students identified himself in his introduction as Dong Lin Lin. The surname, he said, was from his father, but the given name was after his mother. My attention was properly perked up. (I quietly sighed: there is hope for the five-millennia male-dominated *cheongsam* wearers after all.)

The normal pattern in China is for a child to be given the father's surname, in reference to the identity of "place" of origin as family names are derived from geographical places. The given name usually describes the pleasant physical features of the child, or the parents' hopes and dreams for their offspring, often influenced by the time of birth of the child, or any other incidence of chance or good fortune, e.g., the year of the dragon. But never that of the mother!

I mention in class when I do my intro that the practice of naming a child by the father and mother's names together is the case in Hispanic-influenced countries. Teutonic Northern Europe is where the English and the Americans derive their practice where only the patriarch's name applies. I was *Señor Ravelo en España* (also in Venezuela, Guatemala, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Peru) in the early '80s, particularly when I was greeted at the Madrid airport after our pedagogical trek in Africa was shortened by malaria in Nigeria. Finding myself recuperating on the Plaza del Prado in Madrid after Air Iberia misplaced my luggage, I discovered how singularly important my mother's name was in the culture.

Traditional mothers in the Marianas cling to their preeminence in the transmittal of real estate ownership. One of my teacher acquaintances on Saipan birthed three boys with her husband, whom she refused to legally marry in order to cling to the prerogative of determining the disposal of her properties. Oh, they were a functioning family all right, but *sans* the blessings *del Padre* nor the legal strictures of *da Judge*. The children carried their mother's name.

My children are legally registered with their mother's name as their middle name. Thus it came as a delight to read Clay McCollough-Stearns' hyphenated name in a report of his athletic prowess on the sports' page of the *Tribune* last week. I am sure, no one is calling him Clay McCollough at Eye Ess, in the same way I am referred to in some places as *Señor Ravelo,* but the published hyphenated mom-dad-name mirrors a family already ahead of its time when I made their acquaintance a decade ago.

Janet McCollough, Ph.D., and Tony Stearns, M.D., champion Hobie sailing duo, were guests at my ecumenical Saipan wedding. Janet always went by her name, institutionally known in my church when the court engaged her psychological "counseling" services after I secured a TOR. UMC ecclesiastical colleagues determined that my personal behavior was ill-suited to the Saipan parish requirements, so I voluntarily "defrocked" myself of ordination.

Hubby Dr. Stearns, in my experience, remained a gentle and ever health-conscious physician who was never in a hurry to prescribe highly marketed pharma remedies, nor casually resort to the overrated healing intervention of the scalpel. (The now strapping Clay in the papers was, along with his sister, but a stripling twig in my memory.)

In the late '60s, the grandma of my four grandsons, Mary Lou, saw with me on stage in Chicago's *Fiddler on the Roof*. She lived then in what was still lily-white suburban Glen Ellyn, an hour's train ride away. An awakened product of racially protected Illini existence, not unlike that of Hillary Rodham (almost her age), when I walked Mary Lou back to the train station, a wino on Madison Avenue came from one of the alleys, tightly grabbed my arm, and with an inebriated glare, asked: "What are you doing with the white girl, boy?"

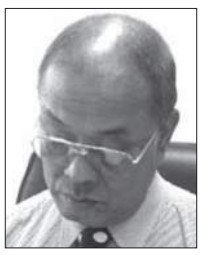
For two decades, the "white girl" and I, and a slew of colleagues, staffed the trenches of the seven revolutions of my time, including that of her gender. She has since turn pro on geriatric care!

Today is Mother's Day USA in a-day-behind America to the CNMI. My macho nod leans heavily toward hailing the likes of Lin Lin, Janet, and Mary Lou. May they continue to lead sisters in getting their offspring carry their mother's names!

Remember the economy? Still bad, lai!

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



Across the country, a poll was taken of voters who have higher opinions of cockroaches than their representatives in Congress. Why are our elected officials unpopular?

A highly respected columnist said, "It might just be because they are not listening. In poll after poll, the American people continue to tell Washington that their top priority is the economy and some 42 percent confirmed it."

Here at home, the issue has become as stale as mouthwash, its onslaught so disastrously adverse pounding heavily and mercilessly against households Marianas-wide. Or is it a stench so pungent as to learn to live with our filthy swamp of mediocrity? Everywhere you look, the word "broke" pops up like jack-in-the-box, boasting a constipated "Hafa Adai!"

Reminds me of the jobless who've given up looking for jobs and descended into hopelessness while availing of help from NAP and other entitlements from Uncle Sam. It may be temporary cover but one that doesn't offer realistic answers for more than 6,000 unemployed. It's bad enough the more than 2,000 that have left the islands in search of decent livelihood across the country.

We sit and ponder what lies ahead as investments that would have spurred "wealth and jobs creation" here head to Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Malaysia. Isn't the obvious skip of the NMI for investment purposes sending a clear message that we buckle down to probing why this is the case?

Well, remember the economy? It's headed Deep South and it still is woefully bad. Hello? Anybody home? It's da 'conomy, 'conomy, 'conomy, *lai*! Sayu Magoo?

Mahmood's green energy plan

Someone once said that the past indicates the future. It is a good reminder of the NMI's experience with Kenneth Mahmood of Saipan Development LLC.

Condescending the gall of Mahmood's cabal, braving useless PowerPoint presentations on issues we're only too familiar with since time begun.

For instance, did these peddlers forget that the archipelago is situated in the typhoon belt zone? Did they do "due diligence" if the Tinian land is outside the military retention area? Is there really a need for this fiscal colossus amidst cataclysmic economic conditions? We can't even pay debts owed the Fund, therefore Mahmood's $200 million proposal should be considered dead on arrival.

The practical alternative is downstairs—geothermal—that is found and proven sufficient for our purposes. All we need to do is invite firms from nearby Japan and the Republic of the Philippines to demonstrate their success rate with geothermal energy all over both countries.

This source of energy has been developed into successful power generation in some 70 countries all over the world. It should work well here given that we're located in the Izu-Bonin Marianas Arc. What's Mahmood's track records on wind and solar energy or is he just brokering like he did the disgraced PPA agreement with fugitive Fitial?

The geothermal alternative would eventually keep the island aglow. You can't say the same with windmills and solar that say *adios* when inclement weather descends into a typhoon prone archipelago. It's that simple and no rocket science either!

Listening

Listening is the most important trait of leadership. Try testing the nimble minds of the elected elite to see if they could employ the benefits of listening. Some are basically clueless but would chance shallow rationalization, convinced it's reasoning.

Each should have had an idea of what to do when he hit the ground running last January. Yet this isn't happening given the apparent circling of the wagon as the seeming new fad in public office.

The last time someone circled the "depravity wagon," he ended up with the dull trophy of impeachment and a woefully disgraceful and humiliating halo of resignation or self-ouster from office. Buckle down, people, with a sense of humility as you dispose of your fiduciary duties. No worries! Leave the note taking to us. In fact, we do a better job at it too.

Now, if I were to ask, "What's north?"—what would be your answer?

Lang's misguided view

Former governor Lang asserts that we have no business on the Pagan issue given that defense and foreign affairs are solely the purview of the federal government.

Had he read Sections 801-06, he would have learned that these provisions are part of the agreement setting forth a vehicle to fostering a close working relationship with Uncle Sam in attaining a "progressively higher standard of living."

It specifically provides for U.S. congressional approval for additional land for military purposes—land and lease fees. In fact, this provision is written in plain English.

In putting the entire provision into perspective, it shows Uncle Sam's commitment and obligation to ensure that the CNMI moves progressively in strengthening self-government. It includes assistance via dealing with foreign economies of scale whose applied technology in farming and fishing could aid our arcane system move several notches up. Why perpetuate outmoded methods?

Have we done our homework, defining the taste of the immediate community from fresh vegetables to drug-free, locally grown meat products? Is it better imposing ill-fated protectionist policies that sink rather than float farming and fishing into modern paradigms?

The law establishing resettlement of Pagan is woefully shortsighted too. It failed to identify and appropriate funds for such intent. It's a pull off the hat plan hoping for magical answers. Yes, the revenue of these isles is magically stuck in budgetary shortfall of nearly half a billion dollars. Whatever the future holds, it's good to converge so we trump our cards realistically.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wake up and smell the coffee

To Reginald Lizama: If we look back at the history of our economic growth and analyze the main reason why we ended up with the contract worker system in the CNMI, we will understand the sub-culture within our business entities. Our culture is based on the status quo and such mentality created a system of society within a society. A few individuals cashed in on the contract worker system, our government benefited from the revenues acquired from the processing fees of alien workers, and our political leaders had the leverage to hire their supporters to work within the CNMI government.

It was not the businesses and the hotels that needed the contract workers, but the fees involved that generated revenues to finance our elected officials' political careers that created such demand in the past. The connected few forked in millions of dollars in such a scam by paying low wages and getting premium for their contracts with our government. Such practice was encouraged from the beginning by our CNMI government and our business entities were conditioned to rely on such arrangement. So for us to assume or to blame our businesses for the way they had been told what to do in our community is fruitless.

We as a society need to wake up and smell the coffee. What we need in our society is to encourage our government to stop hiring old timers and start hiring young bloods like you. We as a whole needs to band together and elect individuals who will instill changes within our government. Our forefathers had been shortchanged in the past by our elected officials and we need to put a stop to such predicament. The next time you vote for anyone into public office, remember to elect those individuals who will make a difference in our community.

Segundo Castro
Marpo Valley, Tinian

A couple of questions

Before the takeover of the immigration, our Labor Department and other agencies were generating thousands of dollars from processing fees, photo, insurance, physical checkup, advertisements, certificates, notary, etc.

Now that it not under our hand, the only money being generated is when a client walks in and gets a copy of his/her birth certificate and other documents, which is only about 30 cents a copy.

Do you think this is part of the reason why our hospital revenue is going down so fast? Do you think this is part of the reason why some of the photo shops, insurance and other businesses that provide service to employment processing are closing? Even our court is not making that much any more.

Do you think this is why the former governor wants to sue the feds?

Do you wonder if U.S. immigration did this for a reason? Do you think we should seek help from the feds regarding our Labor Department? I wonder if this is part of the reason why our government's revenue is going down.

I wonder if anybody noticed this? But it is sad for our people when a new regulation is enforced and there is no warning or training for transition being done. Everyone is lost and looking for someone to blame. Yet, the only solution is to communicate with each other and discuss how to work together to rebuild the CNMI's labor force. I mean, smart people teach other people how to be smart too, so that you won't have to do all the work yourself. Teach everyone to help you and finish the work faster and you'll have more time to rest and enjoy. Do you think this would be better?

Winnie Atalig
San Jose, Tinian

The strong case for never giving up

By LANE FILLER
NEWSDAY

When the news broke about the three women held hostage in Cleveland for a decade and set free Monday, the revulsion and anger I felt were so strong that, emotionally, it seemed I was learning of a tragedy.

But this is good news, the best possible outcome, unexpected and unlikely, and for some, perhaps, no longer even dreamed of at this late date: Alive, they are alive. And how many parents or siblings or friends would have ever still hoped for it, really?

Amanda Berry, now 27, disappeared after a shift at a Cleveland Burger King in April 2003. On Monday, a neighbor—Charles Ramsey, heard Berry crying for help and along with another neighbor, Angel Cordero, assisted in kicking out the door, then called 911.

Soon the police arrived, went into the house, and emerged with Gina DeJesus, 23, who disappeared in 2004, and Michelle Knight, not seen since 2002, 20 years old when she vanished. A 6-year-old girl, believed to be Berry's daughter, is also safe.

There is something universal in Ramsey's shock at learning there were captive women in the "normal" neighbor's home, and his attempt to explain it: "I barbecued with this dude. We eat ribs and whatnot, and listened to salsa music."

The ogres who stalk our children aren't noticeably monstrous. They barbecue, eat ribs, listen to salsa and are expert in hiding twisted proclivities.

I don't remember, even growing up with the standard maniacally paranoid mother, the phobia that me or my sister might be taken captive and held as slaves. I recall the fear that we would be killed, by anything from a speeding car to lightning to a razor hidden in an apple. But the trend of kidnapping young women and keeping them endlessly, like Elizabeth Smart, Jaycee Dugard and now, these three, feels like it has suddenly mushroomed.

All these women being found alive makes a strong argument for not losing hope, and DeJesus' mother claims she never did, but my instinct has always been that, at some point, people ought to give up.

In Columbia, S.C., when I was in my 20s, Dail Dinwiddie was the poster child for disappearing women, and endless hope. Dinwiddie was 23 on Sept. 24, 1992, when she attended a U2 concert with 30,000 other people, went to a bar afterward, then vanished.

Her parents' tireless aggression in trying to find Dail was inspiring, and exhausting. After five years, and 10, still there were the vigils and fliers: "Have you seen this girl?" Eventually, I started thinking, "I respect their pain, but her parents might be better off if they let it go. The girl's dead, and buried somewhere."

But the Dinwiddies have never quit. Last year, police and the Dinwiddies released an age-adjusted photo, showing what Dail might look like at 43, still hoping against hope.

Tuesday I called her dad, Dan Dinwiddie, just to get a little insight. "I'm so glad for those girls," he said. "I'm so glad for their families."

Does he think Dail is alive? "I really … I don't know. My wife and I don't talk about that. I honestly don't have a sense if she's alive or not."

Dan Dinwiddie understands why some people think they should have given up, but said, "It's different when it's your child. We've discussed it and we feel like we can't give up. Dail wouldn't give up on us."

How could she be alive, yet not found, after all these years?

"It's on the off chance that…she got hit in the head and has amnesia, or…you can imagine all sorts of things that could have happened."

I once thought him deranged by grief. Two decades later, with a child of my own, I think he was right all along, whether his daughter's alive or not.

Lane Filler is a member of the Newsday *editorial board. His email address is lane.filler@newsday.com.*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

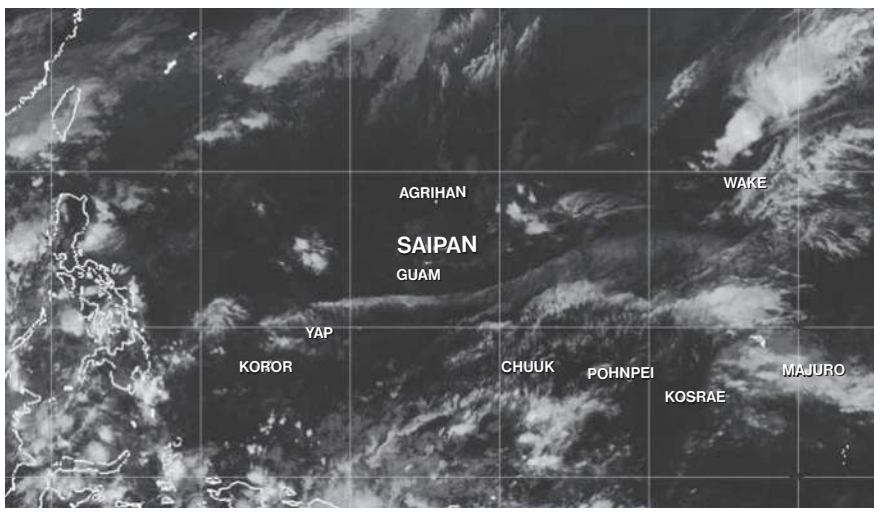
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Sunny	▲89	▼82
Palau	Showers	▲88	▼78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲92	▼79
Chuuk	Cloudy	▲88	▼82
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼81
Kosrae	Showers	▲86	▼81
Majuro	Showers	▲87	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲66	▼59
Beijing	Sunny	▲88	▼59
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲80	▼76
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼73
London	Cloudy	▲63	▼49
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲84	▼64
Manila	Thundershowers	▲91	▼84
Melbourne	Showers	▲57	▼49
Miami	Thundershowers	▲84	▼72
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲58	▼42
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼60
Paris	Cloudy	▲59	▼54
Pusan	Windy	▲71	▼57
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼54
Salem	Showers	▲67	▼50
San Francisco	Sunny	▲68	▼55
Seoul	Showers	▲72	▼55
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼61
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼45

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging surface winds are causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms west of Iwo To island within 50 miles of a line from 22N130E to 24N135E. A mid to upper-level trough extends southwestward from northwest of Guam at 19N142E to north of Yap at 13N136E. The trough is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west of Saipan within 80 miles of 15N137E. Scattered showers are also present north of Koror between 8N and 12N from 130E to 137E. A surface trough extends northeastward from south of Guam at 10N145E to 25N167E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms exist well south of Minami Tori Shima within 90 miles of a line from 17N150E to 18N157E. Low-level convergence is causing scattered showers and thunderstorms north of Wake Island within 100 miles of a line from 20N164E to beyond 25N169E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms well south of Yap to south of Chuuk and Pohnpei or south of a line from 4N133E to 4N139E to 7N150E to 5N157E. Similar weather is occurring north of Kwajalein within 85 miles of a line from 12N163E to 11N165E and near Kwajalein and Majuro within 95 miles of a line from 8N166E to 5N176E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:56 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
9:37 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
4:58 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
11:56 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Tuesday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:38 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:06 AM	9:16 PM
Tuesday	8:55 AM	10:02 PM
Wednesday	9:44 AM	10:46 PM
Thursday	10:33 AM	11:28 PM
Friday	11:22 AM	

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
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  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 6, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	2:55am	6:35am	1
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)

SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:55am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:55am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	1, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN

SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Hopwood sets bar high in McTeacher's Night

From bringing in Carolinian dancers and distributing flyers, to merrily greeting customers as well as the customary manning of the cash register and taking dine-in and take-out orders, Hopwood Junior High School gave a good account of itself during its stint in the McTeacher's Night fundraiser last March.

A busload of Hopwood students, accompanied by vice principals Epi Cabrera and Jocelyn Manibusan, visited McDonald's Saipan's Middle Road location last Friday and accepted proceeds from the school's participation in the Public School System-wide fundraising campaign.

McDonald's Saipan launched McTeacher's Night last December to generate funds to support activities and projects in PSS schools. Under the effort, teachers and staff of the school serve customers at McDonald's in exchange for a percentage of sales.

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu, who handed over the check to Hopwood, said the Chalan Kiya school earned the most money among the first four schools that participated in McTeacher's Night.

Ayuyu said Hopwood was able to ramp up its share of sales by serving as impromptu McDonald's crewmembers twice a week—Tuesday and Wednesday—the entire month of March.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu, sixth from left, hands over a giant check to Hopwood Junior High School vice principal Epi Cabrera representing proceeds from the Chalan Kiya school's participation in McTeacher's Night. Surrounding the two are other McDonald's Saipan staff and Hopwood students and staff.

She said everyone—from principal Jonas Barcinas to classroom teachers and students' parents—worked extremely hard to give the fast-food restaurant higher than average sales during the Home of the Hilitais' McTeacher's Night stint.

Ayuyu's daughter Mable, executive assistant to company president Joe Ayuyu, said that Hopwood teachers and staff went out of their way to differentiate themselves by having different gimmicks in the four weeks they served as wait staff and cashiers. These include having Carolinian dancers perform on one night and distributing flyers on another.

Cabrera and Manibusan, for their part, thanked McDonald's Saipan and the Ayuyu family for inviting Hopwood to participate in McTeacher's Night and for their very generous donation to the school.

Both said proceeds from McTeacher's Night will be used for Hopwood's immediate needs, which include the maintenance of its facilities.

Cabrera and Manibusan also praised Hopwood's Parent Teachers and Student Association for their overwhelming support for McTeacher's Night.

Hopwood student council president Joshua Mendiola thanked McDonald's Saipan for its very generous contribution to their school. The eighth grader said the restaurant's "gift" is very timely considering the CNMI's economic crisis and the lack of money appropriated to PSS by the cash-strapped central government.

After turning over the check to Cabrera and Manibusan, Marcia Ayuyu promised that McDonald's Saipan will continue to extend its helping hand to PSS and any other projects and programs that might need their assistance. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

INVITATION FOR BIDS
WATER TASK FORCE
IFB13-GOV-083

Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, is soliciting sealed bids for the Puerto Rico One Million Gallon Reservoir Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior and the Economic Development Administration (EDA), US Department of Commerce. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA and EDA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Demolition Work: The Demolition Work of this Contract comprises of the demolition and disposal of existing one million gallon (MG) Puerto Rico welded steel tank to include but is not limited to its tank concrete foundations, yard piping, concrete vaults, and appurtenances. And the installation and construction of temporary bypass piping and its appurtenances.
- New Work: The New Work of this Contract comprises of the construction of a one MG nominal capacity welded steel Tank to include but is not limited to its concrete foundation, access manways, ladders and tank appurtenances, earthwork, site work to include asphalt paved access and perimeter drive and perimeter security chain link fence and access gates, piping, utility tie-in connections, protective interior and exterior tank coatings, flow meters, valves, concrete vaults, concrete headwalls, cathodic protection to include its design and installation, disinfection, testing, startup, and appurtenant work, as shown and specified, complete and operable, in accordance with the Contract Documents.

A non-refundable payment of $500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after **April 15, 2013** at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at **10:00 a.m.**, on **April 26, 2013**, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be made as a part of the pre-bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on **April 25, 2013**.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3-301. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked "**IFB13-GOV-083**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 pm local time **May 15, 2013**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 pm local time **May 15, 2013**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 15, 2013**, and must be received no later than **May 24, 2013**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, **May 28, 2013**. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on **May 15, 2013**.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ Eloy S. Inos
Governor and Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply

Annuncio - Arongorong
ANNOUNCEMENT

YOUR COMMENTS ARE MOST WELCOME:

VR FY - 2014 State Plan Goals

Goal 1. Deliver quality and timely services to applicants and consumers.

Goal 2. Serve as an advocate for individuals with disabilities.

Goal 3. Continue to work closely with the Workforce Investment Board to maintain and improve the best features of our workforce development system and to initiate efforts to integrate services for consumers.

Goal 4. Facilitate and ensure the seamless transition of students with disabilities to employment or continued education.

Goal 5. Maintain a comprehensive system of personnel development to ensure adequate qualified rehabilitation personnel.

Goal 6. Update of Policies and Procedures.

Margarita R. Olopai-Taitano
OVR Director

Isidro K. Seman
SRC Chairperson

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) in partnership with the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC), will be conducting statewide public forums for FY 2014 State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services and for the State Plan for Independent Living. YOU are ALL invited and encouraged to please participate in the scheduled public forums. The forums will provide opportunities for public comments on how well services are met and what need to be strengthened in our State Plans. Let us know how best the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation shall and should serve people with disabilities residing in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. What barriers exist that currently prevent our people with disabilities from getting or keeping a job? More importantly, recommend solutions to those barriers. Overall, how can OVR and our local communities work together to prepare, secure, and maintain employment and promote independence for and among eligible people with disabilities?

Community Forum on FY 2014 VR State Plan and State Plan for Independent Living

ROTA	TINIAN
May 15, 2013	May 13, 2013
Rota Mayor's Conference Room	Tinian Mayor's Conference Room
Time: 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm	Time: 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

YOUR COMMENTS ARE MOST WELCOME:

FY - 2014 State Plan for Independent Living Goals

Goal 1. Increase the community's level of awareness of the independent living movement and individual and systems advocacy.

Goal 2. Enhance and expand the four core IL services (Information & Referral, IL skills training, Peer counseling, and systems advocacy); and transportation services in a manner that will maximize benefits to the greatest number of individuals with significant disabilities.

Goal 3. Serve as an advocate for individuals with disabilities.

Margarita R. Olopai-Taitano
OVR Director

Steve Dutro
SILC Chairperson

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION
If you require reasonable accommodation (e.g., large print, sign language interpreter) to participate in the public forums, please contact the OVR Council Liaison Elvira Seman at least 2 days before the scheduled forums. Copies of the plans can be accessed at the OVR website or obtain copies at the OVR Main Office at Navy Hill Bldg. N-2.

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
TEL: 322-6537/8 TTY: 322-6449 FAX: 322-6536
PO Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950
Email: nmidir@ovrgov.net
Website: www.ovrgov.net

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, District Court Clerk of Court Heather L. Kennedy, Judge David A. Wiseman, Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, Judge Kenneth L. Govendo, IT systems manager Michael C. Villacrusis, Director of Courts Tracy M. Guerrero, LRC executive director Michael A. Stanker, Human Resource administrator Michelle V. Guerrero, Family Court manager Joseph K. Villagomez, Justice Perry B. Inos, chief probation officer Ursula I. Lifoifoi-Aldan, Evelyn P. Calvo, and deputy Director of Courts Sonia A. Camacho

Judiciary bids farewell to Tracy Guerrero

Justices, judges, and members of the CNMI Judiciary staff gathered Thursday, May 9, to bid farewell to one of their most admired colleagues, Tracy M. Guerrero, Director of Courts.

Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro thanked Guerrero for helping tear down the imaginary wall that existed between the Supreme and Superior courts.

"As Director of Courts," he said, "you brought the Commonwealth Judiciary closer together, and helped transform us into a cohesive third branch of government rather than two separate courts. Your contributions will be felt for a long time to come. You are an excellent financier, and I could always count on you to provide us with accurate and timely financial information. You will be missed by all of us, and I wish you luck in your new endeavors at the Northern Marianas College."

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja noted in his remarks that "as a fearless champion of the budget," Guerrero worked passionately and competently to improve the financial infrastructure and functioning of the court.

"Beyond numbers," Naraja said, "[Guerrero] was concerned about the needs of all the court staff, and with superior peoples skills she kept morale high."

Justice Perry B. Inos, Judge David A. Wiseman, and Judge Kenneth L. Govendo all offered genuine praise for Guerrero's detail-oriented, business-like, yet personable contribution to the Judiciary's functioning.

Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro presented Guerrero with a plaque expressing the Judiciary's genuine appreciation for her efforts in behalf of the advancement of justice.

Guerrero joined the Judiciary as its Director of Courts in 2008, assuming overall responsibility for administrative management, having previously worked as a senior analyst for the U.S. Government Accountability Office in California. She obtained her bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley and her master's degree in business administration from California State University. She has accepted the position as chief financial officer for Northern Marianas College. ***(NMI Judiciary)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Air Force training on FDM

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on May 14, from 1pm to 5pm and on May 16 from 1pm to 5pm. The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(PR)***

CK Head Start notices

For Chalan Kanoa Head Start parents, there will be a free Parent Education Training for parents of children 0 to 5 years old on May 20 to May 31, 2013, starting at 6pm, at the William S. Reyes Elementary School cafeteria. Call Mona at 483-4398 for more information. ***(PR)***

Grants workshop on Tinian tomorrow

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council will be conducting a workshop in Tinian tomorrow, May 14. The workshop will focus on the council's Community Grants Program and will take place at the Tinian Junior/Senior High School Library at 5pm.

Since 1992, the Council has awarded competitive matching grants to the public through its Community Grants Program. Past Council funded projects have used a variety of formats including conferences, panel discussions, translation of documents, and teacher enrichment seminars. The workshop is free and open to all Tinian residents.

For more information, contact Eulalia Villagomez at 235-4785. ***(PR)***

MHS, SSHS, and KHS Class of '03 meeting

The Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, and Kagman High School Alumni Class of 2003 is inviting all classmates to a mandatory meeting on May 15, 2013, at 6:30pm at Rayna Camacho's residence on Capitol Hill. On the agenda is the upcoming joint 10th year reunion of 2003 classmates to be held in July.

For more information and/or directions, call Caroline Camacho at 789-3730, Rayna Camacho t 483-7769, or Ricky Itibus at 483-7104. We started as one, divided into three, and now let's be reunited as a Class of 2003! ***(PR)***

Health and safety trainings

The American Red Cross is scheduled to conduct Preparedness Health & Safety trainings on the following dates:

- May 15 at 6pm: Adult CPR/AED
- May 16 at 6pm: Pediatric CPR/AED
- May 25 at 8am: Adult CPR/AED

Classes are held at the chapter training room on Airport Road. Blended Learning courses involve online courses with in-person skills exam and require at least 48-hour preregistration. Course fees apply. For more information on the courses listed or other certification courses, contact the chapter office at 234-3459. ***(ARC)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Board of Parole

P.o. Box 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
TEL. NOS.: (670) 664-3300 • 3302 FAX (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
Executive Meeting

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a **Executive Meeting** is scheduled for **May 15, 2013, (Wednesday)** beginning at **9:00 A.M.**, at the **Department of Corrections Briefing/Training Room, Susupe**, Saipan.

The following items are included in the agenda:

I. Preliminary Matters
- A) Call to order
- B) Roll Call
- C) Presence of Quorum

II. Consent Items
- A) Review/Adoption of Agenda
- B) Adoption of Executive Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2012

III. New Business
- A) Preliminary Discussion to revisit the Board's Rules and Regulations

IV. Old Business
- A) Board Policy on the Conduct of Executive Meeting and Parole Hearings
- B) Commonwealth Constitution: Article III
  Re: Section 9: Executive Functions
  (c) Reprieves, Commutations and Pardons
- C) Board's Drug Testing Policy

V. Miscellaneous
- A) Other Matters

VI. Adjournment

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ **Ramon B. Camacho** Date: 04/18/13
Chairman

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Board of Parole

P.o. Box 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
TEL. NOS.: (670) 664-3300 • 3302 FAX (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
Parole Hearing

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a **Parole Hearing** is scheduled for **May 14, 2013, (Tuesday)** beginning at **9:00 A.M., and if need be to continue on May 15, 2013, at 8:30 A.M.** at the **Vicente Taman Seman Building, Department of Corrections, Briefing/Training Room**, Susupe, Saipan.

The following items are included in the agenda:

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Presence of Quorum

II. Consent Items
1. Adoption of Agenda

III. Parole Application	**BOP No.**	**Criminal Case No.**
1. Mariano SN. Camacho	13-001	89-20/22F/90-84 91-20/36
2. Joseph C. Arriola Jr.	13-003	09-0225T
3. Derik C. Reyes	13-004	11-0092/12-0109
4. Marcelino S. Carlos	13-005	09-0233A
IV. Re-Parole Application	**BOP No.**	**Criminal Case No.**
1. Mark Wayne Torres	07-004	00-0012
V. Rescission Decision	**BOP No.**	**Criminal Case No.**
1. David T. Diaz	10-005	01-0381E

VI. Miscellaneous
1. Other Matters

VII. Adjournment

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ **Ramon B. Camacho** Date: 4/18/2013
Chairman

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE
VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT SALE
PROJECT NO. CPA-PAN-001-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is inviting individuals, firms and scrap dealers interested in buying CPA vehicle and equipment located in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The list of vehicle and equipment will be available for pick-up at the Office of the Rota Airport Manager, Benjamin Manglona International Airport, Rota Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands beginning May 1, 2013.

All items may be viewed at the Benjamin Manglona International Airport, Rota, thru the Rota Airport Manager, Martin T. Mendiola. Mr. Mendiola may be reached at telephone number 532-9497, Monday thru Friday, 08:00 AM to 17:00 PM.

The auction will take place on **Friday, May 17, 2013** beginning 2:00 PM Local Time until 5:00 PM. All bidders submitting the highest itemized bid for the vehicle and equipment listed are required to pay 20% down payment on acceptance of bid. Balance shall be payable at CPA Rota Airport Office within five (5) working days from closing date of the Public Auction. Failure to pay will result in the forfeiture of the down payment. Payment must be made in cash, cashier's check or money order payable to Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The vehicle and equipment are sold "AS IS" and "WHERE IS" and WITHOUT WARRANTY. All sold properties must be removed from CPA property within five (5) calendar days from date of payment at owner's expense. CPA will not be responsible for said property after said specified time.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Public Auction Notice; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation prior to and at the auction.

CPA assumes no responsibilities for any costs incurred by bidders in their preparation of the bids.

Inquiries may be directed to the Procurement Officer, Mr. Alex C. Tudela, at telephone number 237-6563.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Business

Bloodless bank heist impressed cybercrime experts

NEW YORK (AP)—A bloodless bank heist that netted more than $45 million has left even cybercrime experts impressed by the technical sophistication, if not the virtue, of the con artists who pulled off a remarkable internationally organized attack.

"It was pretty ingenious," Pace University computer science professor Darren Hayes said Friday.

On the creative side of the heist, a small team of highly skilled hackers penetrated bank systems, erased withdrawal limits on prepaid debit cards and stole account numbers. On the crude end, criminals used handheld devices to change the information on the magnetic strips of old hotel key cards, used credit cards and depleted debit cards.

Seven people were arrested in the U.S., accused of operating the New York cell of what prosecutors said was a network that carried out thefts at ATMs in 27 countries from Canada to Russia. Law enforcement agencies from more than a dozen nations were involved in the investigation, which was being led by the Secret Service.

Here's how it worked:

First, the hackers, quite possibly insiders, broke into computer records at a few credit card processing companies, first in India and then the U.S. This has happened before but here's what was new: They didn't just take information. They actually raised the limit on prepaid debit cards kept in reserves at two large banks.

"It's pretty scary if you think about it. They changed the account balances. That's like the holy grail for a thief," said Chris Wysopal, co-founder of security company Veracode.

The next step was technically simpler, almost an arts-and-crafts activity.

Crime ring members in 27 countries ran used plastic cards, just about anything with a standard magnetic strip, through handheld magnetic stripe encoders, widely available online for less than $300. Those devices allow users to change information on magnetic stripes or to write new cards with a simple swipe.

In this case, the stripes were rewritten with information from the hackers. That allowed the thieves to turn the cards into gold, instantly transforming them into prepaid debit cards with unlimited amounts of money stored on them.

Finally it was time for action.

On two pre-arranged days—once in December and again in February—criminals loaded with the lucrative debit cards and PIN numbers, headed into city streets around the world, racing from one ATM to the next, often taking out the maximum the cash machine would allow in a single transaction: $800.

In December, they worked for about 2 1/2 hours, reaping $5 million worldwide in about 4,500 transactions. Two months later, apparently buoyed by their success, they hit the ATMs for 10 hours straight, collecting $40 million in 36,000 transactions.

The New York money runners made off with $2.8 million, according to the indictment, a fraction of the total amount yielded by the heist.

Players kept a cut but sent the bulk of the money back to the masterminds through wire transfers and sometimes in person, prosecutors said.

One New York suspect, Elvis Rodriguez, 24, planned to travel to Romania in January to pay about $300,000 to organizers of the operation, but American Airlines canceled the reservation because the airline was concerned it had been booked with a stolen credit card, according to the criminal complaint. The reservation was canceled, but the suspect paid for the trip in cash, it said.

Authorities said they seized his iPhone and found a photo of him and another suspect posing with a stack of cash between them in a car.

AP

In this undated photo provided by the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, Elvis Rafael Rodriguez, left, and Emir Yasser Yeje pose with bundles of cash allegedly stolen using bogus magnetic swipe cards at cash machines throughout New York.

AP: IRS knew tea party targeted in 2011

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senior Internal Revenue Service officials knew agents were targeting tea party groups as early as 2011, according to a draft of an inspector general's report obtained by The Associated Press that seemingly contradicts public statements by the IRS commissioner.

The IRS apologized Friday for what it acknowledged was "inappropriate" targeting of conservative political groups during the 2012 election to see if they were violating their tax-exempt status. The agency blamed low-level employees, saying no high-level officials were aware.

But on June 29, 2011, Lois G. Lerner, who heads the IRS division that oversees tax-exempt organizations, learned at a meeting that groups were being targeted, according to the watchdog's report. At the meeting, she was told that groups with "Tea Party," ``Patriot" or "9/12 Project" in their names were being flagged for additional and often burdensome scrutiny, the report says.

The 9/12 Project is a group started by conservative TV personality Glenn Beck. In a statement to the AP, Beck suggested that the revelations were hardly news to him and other conservatives.

"In February 2012, TheBlaze first reported what the IRS now admits to—that they unfairly targeted conservative groups including the 9/12 project," Beck said, citing his website and TV network. "It is nice to see everyone else playing catch-up and finally asking the same questions that TheBlaze started raising over a year ago."

Lerner instructed agents to change the criteria for flagging groups "immediately," the report says.

The Treasury Department's inspector general for tax administration is expected to release the results of a nearly yearlong investigation in the coming week. The AP obtained part of the draft report, which has been shared with congressional aides.

Among the other revelations, on Aug. 4, 2011, staffers in the IRS' Rulings and Agreements office "held a meeting with chief counsel so that everyone would have the latest information on the issue."

Dollar rises above 100 yen for 1st time in 4 years

TOKYO (AP)—The dollar soared above 100 yen for the first time in more than four years Friday, driven by aggressive credit-easing aimed at reviving Japan's sluggish economy and improved U.S. economic figures.

The U.S. dollar rose as high as 101.30 yen, the first time since April 2009 that the greenback has traded above 100 yen. The move lifted Japanese stocks to their highest level in more than five years.

The weaker yen is a boon to Japan's major auto and electronics exporters. The government said the yen's fall signaled that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's policy mix of increased public spending and aggressive monetary easing, dubbed "Abenomics," was proving successful. Kick-starting the economy has been Abe's top priority since he took office late last year.

"With Abenomics, we hope that the Japanese economy will grow and can contribute to the global economy," said Yoshihide Suga, the chief Cabinet spokesman. "It's better that stocks are high than low. We believe this is a sign that our policies are progressing well."

Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average jumped 2.9 percent to 14,607.54, its highest close since January 2008.

The central bank's monetary easing, and expectations it will help reverse persistent deflation, have helped drive the value of the yen down by more than 20 percent against the dollar since October, when it was trading at around 78 yen.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-019
SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ENGINE LUBE OILS FOR POWER GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of engine lubricating oils for CUC Power Generation facilities on Saipan and Rota for the period starting August 01, 2013 through August 30, 2017.

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **May 7, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-13-019, Supply & Delivery Of Engine Lube Oils for Power Generation"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **May 23, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The Proposal Price shall remain the same throughout the term of the contract except for the variation in the MOPS and government taxes, duties and fees.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **May 10, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Wallon Young, CUC Deputy Director for Power via email wallon59@yahoo.com and Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 13-028
Opening Date: Tuesday, May 07, 2013
Closing Date: Monday, May 20, 2013

Warehouse Technician

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the division manager or his/her designee. Provides direction to Warehouse Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction; Performs inventory adjustments on over/understated quantities of material in inventory; Prepares receiving reports on inventory stock items received; Provides accounts payable copies; Closes inventory month-end reports for all warehouses; Prepares inventory on all contracts and CIP materials; Performs physical inventory of all stock items; edits and posts final counts; and Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION(S): **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY: $7.28 to $12.13 per hour.

CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

POSITION(S): One (1).

Minimum Requirements: High School diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) or Adult School (AS) diploma through the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program and four years of warehouse experience. Applicants proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel 2010 or higher are preferred. Knowledge of: Office machines; Materials management principles; Safety procedures; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skills in: Assigning and monitoring work of lower level staff; Conducting inventory; Operating office equipment; Operating warehouse equipment such as forklifts and pallet jacks; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must have a CNMI driver's license or one from a U.S. jurisdiction. Pre-employment drug testing required.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

Nation

For Cleveland women, ordeal of recovery begins now

By JESSE WASHINGTON
AP NATIONAL WRITER

AP

Workers board up the house Saturday, May 11, 2013 where three women were held in Cleveland on Saturday, May 11, 2013.

Year after year, the clock ticked by and the calendar marched forward, carrying the three women further from the real world and pulling them deeper into an isolated nightmare.

Now, for the women freed from captivity inside a Cleveland house, the ordeal is not over. Next comes recovery—from sexual abuse and their sudden, jarring re-entry into a world much different from the one they were snatched from a decade ago.

Therapists say that with extensive treatment and support, healing is likely for the women, who were 14, 16 and 21 when they were abducted. But it is often a long and difficult process.

"It's sort of like coming out of a coma," says Dr. Barbara Greenberg, a psychologist who specializes in treating abused teenagers. "It's a very isolating and bewildering experience."

In the world the women left behind, a gallon of gas cost about $1.80. Barack Obama was a state senator. Phones were barely taking pictures. Things did not "go viral." There was no YouTube, no Facebook, no iPhone.

Emerging into the future is difficult enough. The two younger Cleveland women are doing it without the benefit of crucial formative years.

"By taking away their adolescence, they weren't able to develop emotional and psychological and social skills," says Duane Bowers, who counsels traumatized families through the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

"They're 10 years behind in these skills. Those need to be caught up before they can work on reintegrating into society," he says.

That society can be terrifying. As freed captive Georgina DeJesus arrived home from the hospital, watched by a media horde, she hid herself beneath a hooded sweatshirt. The freed Amanda Berry slipped into her home without being seen.

"They weren't hiding from the press, from the cameras," Bowers says. "They were hiding from the freedom, from the expansiveness."

In the house owned by Ariel Castro, who is charged with kidnapping and raping the women, claustrophobic control ruled. Police say that Castro kept them chained in a basement and locked in upstairs rooms, that he fathered a child with one of them and that he starved and beat one captive into multiple miscarriages.

In all those years, they only set foot outside of the house twice—and then only as far as the garage.

"Something as simple as walking into a Target is going to be a major problem for them," Bowers says.

Jessica Donohue-Dioh, who works with survivors of human trafficking as a social work instructor at Xavier University in Cincinnati, says the freedom to make decisions can be one of the hardest parts of recovery.

"'How should I respond? What do they really want from me?'" Donohue-Dioh says, describing a typical reaction. "They may feel they may not have a choice in giving the right answer."

That has been a challenge for Jaycee Dugard, who is now an advocate for trauma victims after surviving 18 years in captivity—"learning how to speak up, how to say what I want instead of finding out what everybody else wants," Dugard told ABC News.

Experts: CO2 record illustrates 'scary' trend

WASHINGTON (AP)—The old saying that "what goes up must come down" doesn't apply to carbon dioxide pollution in the air, which just hit an unnerving milestone.

The chief greenhouse gas was measured Thursday at 400 parts per million in Hawaii, a monitoring site that sets the world's benchmark. It's a symbolic mark that scientists and environmentalists have been anticipating for years.

While this week's number has garnered all sorts of attention, it is just a daily reading in the month when the chief greenhouse gas peaks in the Northern Hemisphere. It will be lower the rest of the year. This year will probably average around 396 ppm. But not for long—the trend is going up and at faster and faster rates.

Within a decade the world will never see days—even in the cleanest of places on days in the fall when greenhouse gases are at their lowest—when the carbon measurement falls below 400 ppm, said James Butler, director of global monitoring at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Earth Science Research Lab in Boulder, Colo.

"The 400 is a reminder that our emissions are not only continuing, but they're accelerating; that's a scary thing," Butler said Saturday. "We're stuck. We're going to keep going up."

Carbon dioxide stays in the air for a century, some of it into the thousands of years. And the world carbon dioxide pollution levels are accelerating yearly. Every second, the world's smokestacks and cars pump 2.4 million pounds of the heat-trapping gas into the air.

Carbon pollution levels that used to be normal for the 20th century are fast becoming history in the 21st century.

"It means we are essentially passing one in a whole series of points of no return," said Michael Mann, a climate scientist at Pennsylvania State University.

Princeton University climate scientist Michael Oppenheimer said the momentum in carbon dioxide emissions has the world heading toward and passing 450 ppm. That is the level which would essentially mean the world warms another 2 degrees, what scientists think of as dangerous, he said. That 2-degree mark is what much of the world's nations have set as a goal to prevent.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-018

RENEWABLE ENERGY INTEGRATION STUDY

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for a Renewable Energy Integration Study for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The focus of this Renewable Energy Integration Study will be:

- To determine how much variable renewable energy (Solar PV and Wind) can CUC economically integrate into its grid?
- To investigate the operational impact - at penetration levels ranging from 10% to 50% - for Solar PV and Wind generation.

A Power System Analysis software with a Renewable Energy module will be purchased and installed on CUC computers for grid studies and operations. The contractor will recommend and install the software on computers provided by CUC. The contractor will model CUC's grid and carry out related Load-flow, Short Circuit, Stability (dynamic and transient), Transient and Protection analysis, as well as simulations.

The study should address these questions:

1. What is the impact of up to 50% variable renewable energy penetration and how can this be accommodated?
2. How much Solar PV or Wind generation can be connected on any of CUC's 13.8KV distribution feeders? Can geographic diversity or distributed generation will help mitigate variability?
3. How spinning reserve should be modified to account for the variability in Wind and Solar PV generation. What is the additional cost of spinning due to this variability?
4. What is the increased O&M cost of diesel generators due to increased ramping and cycling?
5. What are the Short Circuit levels and currents at interconnection points on the grid?
6. What are the supply quality problems; including voltage stability /collapse and frequency fluctuations?

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on April 30, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-13-018,Renewable Energy Integration Study"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **May 20, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than May 10, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST) to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Wallon Young, CUC Deputy Director for Power via email wallon59@yahoo.com and Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-020

DESIGN-BUILD RENOVATION OF CUC WAREHOUSE OFFICE AND STORAGE FACILITY

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the Design-Build Renovation of CUC Warehouse Office and Storage Facility of the Commonwealth Utilities, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The selected A&E and Construction firm shall perform design and construction services for the renovation of the CUC Warehouse in Lower Base, Saipan. The firm must have experience on past design-build projects particularly on the island of Saipan.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **May 9, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-13-020, Design-Build Renovation of CUC Warehouse Office and Storage Facility, Saipan"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **May 28, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated, pre-qualified and selected based on the following criteria:

1. Familiarity and understanding of the CUC Warehouse staff daily activities
2. Qualifications and Experience of the A&E and the Contractor
   - o Proposed Methodology and Project Approach with Milestone Schedule
   - o Proposed Staffing and Experience
   - o List and Performance Recommendation on similar contracts, including the timeliness of the firms in meeting contract deadlines
   - o Present Workload and Availability

Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This Request for Proposal and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations ss 50-50-301 & 305, Procurement of Construction and Architect-Engineering Services.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org. with a copy to John Mafnas, CUC Warehouse Manager, via email john.mafnas@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Asia

Woman rescued from Bangladesh rubble recovering

SAVAR, Bangladesh (AP)—A seamstress who survived 17 days before being rescued from a collapsed garment factory building outside of Bangladesh's capital was panicked, dehydrated and suffering from insomnia as she recovered in a hospital Saturday, but was in generally good condition, according to her doctors.

The rescue Friday of 19-year-old Reshma Begum brought a boost to the workers who had spent more than two weeks pulling decaying bodies from the rubble. By Saturday, they had resumed their grim recovery task, as the death toll surpassed 1,100 in the world's worst garment industry disaster.

"We will not leave the operation until the last dead body and living person is found," said Maj. Gen. Chowdhury Hasan Suhrawardy, the head of the local military units in charge of rescue operations.

Lt. Col. Azizur Rahman, a doctor at the military hospital where Begum is being treated, said she was exhausted and badly stressed when she was brought in an ambulance Friday afternoon. She suffered scratches, but no major injuries, he said. Her kidneys were functioning at less than 45 percent and she suffered insomnia.

"She is panicked, sometimes she holds nurses' hands tight," he said.

Doctors were giving her semi-solid food and saline for her dehydration. They advised complete rest, and barred reporters from speaking with her for fear their questions would worsen her fragile psychological state.

"We don't want those memories to haunt her now, so we are not allowing anybody to ask her anything," Rahman said, adding that a team of psychiatrists would examine her.

AP

In this photo taken by a mobile phone camera, survivor of a collapsed building Reshma Begum lie down on a bed as she receives treatment at a hospital in Savar, near Dhaka, Bangladesh, Saturday, May 11, 2013.

Nevertheless, Suhrawardy said Begum told him she was fine.

Several photographers and cameramen were allowed to take pictures of Begum on Saturday afternoon as she lay on her hospital bed. Her head was covered in a neon green scarf, and she looked tired but alert. A white sheet covered her up to her neck. She was hooked to a monitor and had an intravenous drip in her left arm.

Begum had spent 17 days in a room-like area under the rubble high enough for her to stand, surviving on dried food, bottled water and rainwater, Suhrawardy said. She got fresh air from some of the 27 air holes that rescuers had dug in the rubble. She even found cartons of dresses inside and was able to change her clothes, Suhrawardy said.

"Her return is amazing, miraculous," he said.

Begum's family said they—like many other families of workers still missing—had been losing hope of finding her alive. Her brother Zayed Islam said her relatives initially camped out at the collapse site and then moved to the hospital in the first days after the disaster, hoping to find her among the injured. Eventually, they moved to the school ground that had been turned into a makeshift morgue, so they could try to find her among the dead bodies.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Former Pakistani prime minister declares victory

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Former Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif declared victory following a historic election marred by violence Saturday, a remarkable comeback for a leader once toppled in a military coup and sent into exile. The 63-year-old Sharif, who has twice served as premier, touted his success after unofficial, partial vote counts showed his Pakistan Muslim League-N party with an overwhelming lead. The party weathered a strong campaign by former cricket star Imran Khan that energized Pakistan's young people. Sharif expressed a desire to work with all parties to solve the country's problems in a victory speech given to his supporters in the eastern city of Lahore as his lead in the national election became apparent based on vote counts announced by Pakistan state TV.

27 miners killed in China coal mine blast

BEIJING (AP)—Authorities say 27 miners were killed in a coal mine blast in southwestern China. The work safety bureau in Sichuan province says 108 miners were working underground when the accident happened Saturday afternoon. Of the 81 rescued, six were seriously injured and nine suffered minor injuries. Less than 24 hours earlier, another coal mine blast in southwestern China killed 12 people. Friday's gas explosion happened in neighboring Guizhou province. China's mines are the deadliest in the world. Authorities have improved safety in recent years, but regulations are often ignored.

11 Afghan landmine clearers abducted

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Unidentified kidnappers have abducted 11 Afghans working in a U.N.-affiliated landmine clearing program in the east of the country, officials said Saturday. The 11 were taken Thursday in a remote part of Nangarhar province, said Hazrat Hussain Mashreqiwal, provincial police spokesman. He did not name the abductors but said local officials and tribal elders were trying to negotiate the mine clearers' freedom. According to the United Nations there are an estimated 10 million mines scattered throughout 150 of Afghanistan's 400 districts, a legacy of 30 years of war. Children and farmers face the most serious threats from the discarded explosive devices. On Friday three children in central Ghazni province were killed when they tried to dismantle an old bomb. Also Saturday, a series of bombings targeted Afghanistan's intelligence and security personnel.

Chinese air their cases by petitioning White House

BEIJING (AP)—The poisoning of a college student 18 years ago recently re-emerged as a hot topic in China, but censors soon squelched the politically sensitive online discussions over whether the culprit may have eluded punishment because of Communist Party connections.

Chinese looking for justice found another way to keep the issue alive. They took it to Washington.

Appealing to a White House online petition page, they soon gathered the 100,000 signatures required for an official response, and—although there has been no response from Washington so far—news of the request revived talk about the case in China. Beijing police issued an explanation after weeks of silence, and state media chimed in with editorials.

"The Chinese public went to a foreign site to vent off their frustration, and that speaks of the loss of credibility of the Chinese government," said Shen Dingli, professor of American studies at Fudan University.

Started in 2011 as a project in open government for the Internet age, the Obama administration's "We the People" site is a work in progress that already has spawned unintended consequences domestically, prompting updates of the ground rules for a successful petition.

Though clearly intended for U.S. citizens, the guidelines on gathering online signatories remain broad enough to hearten activists overseas who—frustrated with their own governments—hope to raise the international profile of their cases. The site does not ask for one's nationality, and one only needs to be 13 or older and have a verified email address to create an account to initiate a petition or sign one.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor, Captain George F. Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (April 24, 2013)

II. SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS
1. Personnel Matter: Employment Contract

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI May 10, 2013
Chairman, Board of Directors

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Division of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 501304 Saipan, MP 96950-1304
(670) 664-8500/01 (670) 664-8540 (fax)
environment@deq.gov.mp www.deq.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

SMOKE TESTING WILL BEGIN FOR STORM DRAINS IN GARAPAN

The CNMI Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) would like to inform you that a joint work crew from DEQ and CUC will be in your area from June 10th until August 12th conducting smoke testing in the stormwater drainage system. The smoke testing is meant to identify sources of pollution which lead to a high number of red flagged beaches (high level of fecal bacteria) within the Garapan area. To help protect you, your family, the community and our visitors from water pollution, DEQ is asking for the whole community's cooperation with our program so that we can continue to enjoy our beautiful beaches.

The smoke you may see coming from storm drain inlets or holes in the ground is NON-TOXIC, NON-STAINING and WHITE TO GRAY IN COLOR. It HAS NO ODOR and CREATES NO FIRE HAZARD. The smoke should not enter your home or come out of the vent stacks on your building unless you have defective plumbing. If smoke enters your building, immediately contact our crews working in the area or call DEQ at 664-8500.

If you have any further questions regarding this public notice, please feel free to contact DEQ at (670) 664-8500 and ask for Ms. Kaitlin Mattos. We appreciate your cooperation and assistance in protecting our environment.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PSS HEAD START PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 501370
SAIPAN, MP 96950

Head Start Policy Council
AGENDA

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 9:30 a.m., Tanapag Head Start Resource Center, Tanapag, Saipan.

I. **Preliminary Matters**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Quorum
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Adoption of Minutes:
a. May 3, 2013 Special Meeting

II. **Public Comments**
III. **Communication**
1. From the State Board of Education
2. From the Office of Head Start

IV. **Monthly Reports**
1. Director
a. SY 12-13 End of the Year Plans
b. SY 13-14 Opening of the Year Plans
c. CLASS Results (Triennial Review)
d. System-Wide Accreditation Trainings and Plans
e. OHS 2nd Annual Birth to Five Leadership Institute Report and Program Action Plan
f. Health Expo/Fair Plans
g. SY 12-13 Week Of the Young Child (WOYC) Event Results
h. Program Information Report (PIR)
2. Managers
3. Interim Finance Director
4. HPC Standing Committees
5. Center Representatives

V. **Old Business**
VI. **New Business**
VII. **Miscellaneous Matters**
VIII. **Executive Session**
IX. **Next Meeting**
X. **Adjournment**

This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Ms. Candace Q. Celis at (670) 664-3761 or email address at candace.celis@cnmipss.org, several days notice is required.

/s/ Antonio Mesngon
Chairperson

World

Syria-linked group blamed in Turkey blasts; 43 die

REYHANLI, Turkey (AP)—In one of the deadliest attacks in Turkey in recent years, two car bombs exploded near the border with Syria on Saturday, killing 43 and wounding 140 others. Turkish officials blamed the attack on a group linked to Syria, and a deputy prime minister called the neighboring country's intelligence service and military "the usual suspects."

The blasts, which were 15 minutes apart and hit the town of Reyhanli's busiest street, raised fears that Turkey could increasingly be drawn into Syria's brutal civil war.

Turkey already hosts Syria's political opposition and rebel commanders, has given shelter to hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees and in the past retaliated against Syrian shells that landed in Turkey.

Deputy Prime Minister Besir Atalay said the assailants were from Turkey, but were linked to Syria's intelligence service.

"We have to a great extent completed our work toward identifying the assailants," he told reporters. "We have established that the organization and assailants have links to the pro-regime mukhabarat (intelligence) organization."

AP

The site of one of the explosions after several explosions killed at least 40 people and injured dozens in Reyhanli, near Turkey's border with Syria, Saturday, May 11, 2013, Turkish Interior Minister Muammer Guler said.

He did not name the group, but said the aim of the attack was to pit Turks against Syrian refugees in Reyhanli.

Earlier, another deputy prime minister, Bulent Arinc said: "Our thoughts are that their mukhabarat and armed organizations are the usual suspects in planning and the carrying out of such devilish plans," he said.

Arinc said the attacks were still being investigated, but that If it's proven that Syrian was behind the attack, Turkey would "do whatever is necessary," without specifying if that included military action.

One of the car bombs exploded outside the city hall while the other went off outside the post office. Reyhanli, a main hub for Syrian refugees and rebels in Turkey's Hatay province, is just across the border from Syria's Idlib province. Private NTV television, citing unnamed security sources, said the explosions were remote-controlled and that plastic explosives were used.

Images showed people frantically carrying the wounded through the rubble-strewn streets to safety. Black smoke billowed from a tall building.

The explosions came days before Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan is scheduled to travel to the U.S. for talks, which are expected to be dominated by the situation in Syria. The car bombings also follow allegations by Erdogan the Syrian regime has fired about 200 missiles tipped with chemical weapons.

Syrian mortar rounds have fallen over the border before, but if the blasts turn out to be linked to Syria it would be by far the biggest death toll in Turkey related to its neighbor's civil war.

Syria shares a more than 500-mile (800-kilometer) border with Turkey, which has been a crucial supporter of the Syrian rebel cause. Ankara has allowed its territory to be used as a logistics base and staging center for Syrian insurgents.

Atalay said 43 people were killed and 140 others were wounded in the blasts. There was no immediate information on the identities or nationalities of the victims.

The bombings" will increase the pressure on the U.S. president next week to do something to show support to Turkey when Erdogan visits him in Washington," said Soner Cagaptay, an expert on Turkey at the Washington Institute. "Washington will be forced to take a more pro-active position on Syria, at least in rhetoric, whether or not there is appetite for such a position here."

Salman Shaikh, director of the Brookings Doha Center, said the attack may force Turkey to take action.

"It should be a defining moment for Turkey," Shaikh said. "It has been supporting the rebels, and there has been strong rhetoric. But this may be a moment where it really has to assert itself—if it is the Assad regime (behind the bombings), and it is quite conceivable it is."

World grapples with rise in cyber crime

LONDON (AP)—International law enforcement agencies say the recent $45 million dollar ATM heist is just one of many scams they're fighting in an unprecedented wave of sophisticated cyberattacks.

Old-school robberies by masked criminals are being eclipsed by stealth multimillion dollar cybercrime operations which are catching companies and investigators by surprise.

"We are seeing an unprecedented number of cyberscams that include phishing for financial data, viruses, credit card fraud and others," Marcin Skowronek, an investigator at Europol's European Cybercrime Center in The Hague said on Saturday.

"In Europe, we are generally quite well protected against some types of fraud because of the chip and pin technology we use, but there are still shops and machines around the world who still take cards without chips. And the most popular destinations for this type of fraud are the United States and the Dominican Republic."

U.S. Investigators said Thursday a gang hit cash machines in 27 countries in two attacks—the first netting $5 million in December and then $40 million in February in a 10-hour spree that involved about 36,000 transactions.

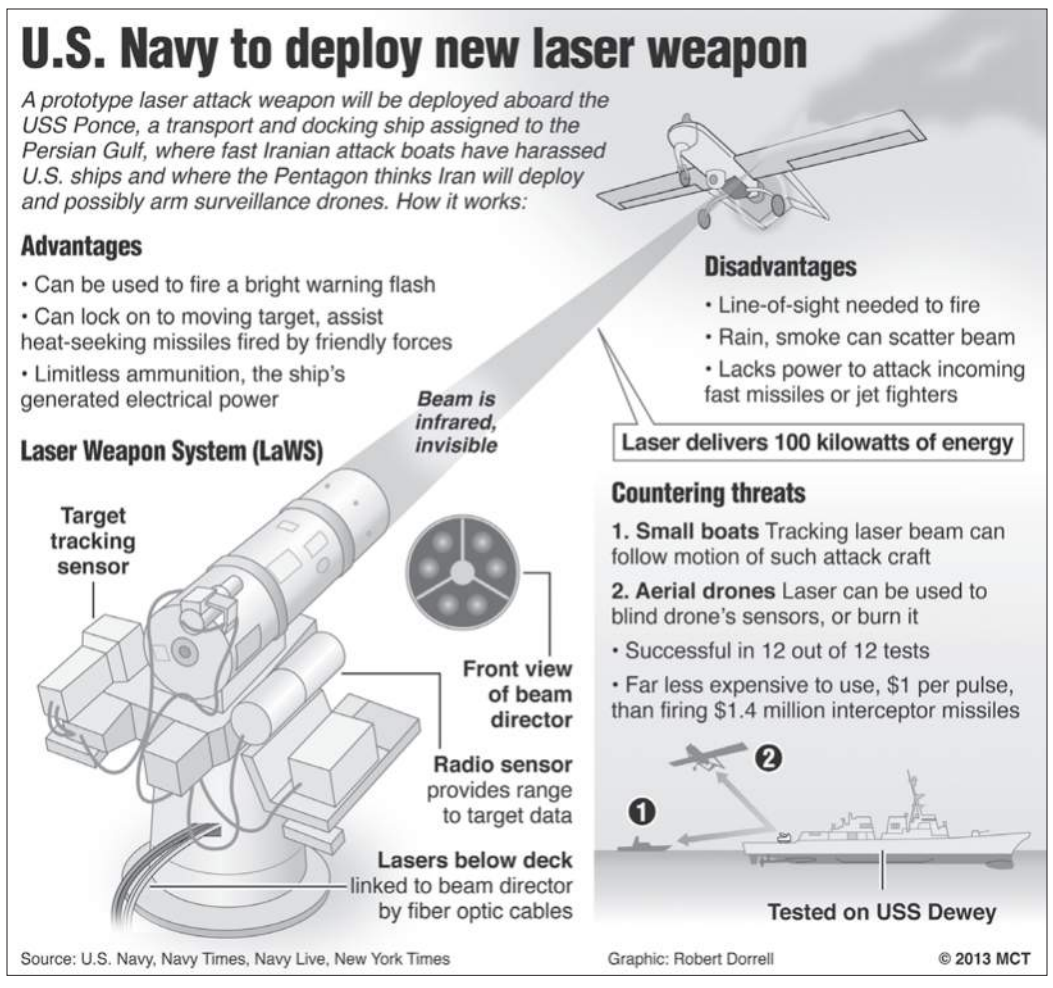
Hackers got into bank databases, eliminated withdrawal limits on prepaid debit cards and created access codes. Others loaded that data onto any plastic card—even a hotel keycard—with a magnetic stripe

A similar scam yielded some 50 arrests this year in Europe during a joint police operation between Romanian police and Europol, Skowronek said.

The operation took more than a year, involved some 400 police officers across Europe and required work comparing bank losses to illegal transactions and then cross-referencing suspects, said Skowronek, who said many national police forces were beefing up their undercover work in the cyberworld to catch criminals.

Investigators found illegal workshops for producing devices and software to manipulate point-of-sale terminals. Illegal electronic equipment, financial data, cloned cards and cash were seized in raids in Britain and Romania.

The group stole credit and debit card numbers and PIN codes by implanting card reading devices and malicious software on point-of-sale terminals. The criminals then used counterfeit payment cards with stolen data for further illegal transactions in countries that included Argentina, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Japan, Mexico, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the United States.


U.S. Navy to deploy new laser weapon
A prototype laser attack weapon will be deployed aboard the USS Ponce, a transport and docking ship assigned to the Persian Gulf, where fast Iranian attack boats have harassed U.S. ships and where the Pentagon thinks Iran will deploy and possibly arm surveillance drones. How it works:
Advantages
• Can be used to fire a bright warning flash
• Can lock on to moving target, assist heat-seeking missiles fired by friendly forces
• Limitless ammunition, the ship's generated electrical power
Disadvantages
• Line-of-sight needed to fire
• Rain, smoke can scatter beam
• Lacks power to attack incoming fast missiles or jet fighters
Laser Weapon System (LaWS)
Beam is infrared, invisible
Laser delivers 100 kilowatts of energy
Target tracking sensor
Front view of beam director
Radio sensor provides range to target data
Lasers below deck linked to beam director by fiber optic cables
Countering threats
1. Small boats Tracking laser beam can follow motion of such attack craft
2. Aerial drones Laser can be used to blind drone's sensors, or burn it
• Successful in 12 out of 12 tests
• Far less expensive to use, $1 per pulse, than firing $1.4 million interceptor missiles
Tested on USS Dewey
Source: U.S. Navy, Navy Times, Navy Live, New York Times
Graphic: Robert Dorrell
© 2013 MCT

WORLD BRIEFS

Prison for ex-dictator soothes Guatemala

GUATEMALA CITY (AP)—Former Guatemalan dictator Efrain Rios Montt spent his first full day as a convict Saturday in a 16-by-13 foot cell with a small bed, bathroom and window, after receiving a landmark 80-year sentence for genocide and crime against humanity. It was a steep fall for the now-86-year-old former strongman who ruled Guatemala from March 1982 to August 1983, during the height of a brutal civil war that killed 200,000 people, mainly Indians. A tribunal on Friday ruled that Rios Montt knew about the slaughter of at least 1,771 Ixil Maya in Guatemala's western highlands and didn't stop it, handing down the first genocide conviction ever given to a Latin American strongman in his own country. The former general was transferred to prison later that evening.

Immigrant in Italy kills 1 in pickaxe rampage

ROME (AP)—An immigrant illegally living in Italy went on a rampage with a pickaxe in Milan at dawn Saturday, killing a passer-by and wounding four others in an apparently random attack, police said. The attack, which police say was carried out by a Ghanaian immigrant with a criminal record, immediately revived a long-raging political debate over whether Italy should crack down harder on immigrants or facilitate their path toward citizenship, as recently lobbied for by Italy's first black Cabinet minister, who had immigrated from Congo. The 21-year-old attacker was taken into custody shortly after the attacks in a residential area on the northern outskirts of Milan, according to Carabinieri paramilitary police in the city. Two of the wounded were in critical condition.

Suicide tanker truck kills 3 people in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraqi officials say that a suicide tanker truck packed with explosives blew up outside the home of an army intelligence officer, killing three people and wounding 18 others in the country's north. Police officials say that the Saturday blast heavily damaged the house of Brig. Khalaf al-Jubouri in al-Shurqat, 250 kilometers (155 miles) northwest of Baghdad. Police said that al-Jubouri's son and nephew were among the dead, but the officer himself was not home at the time. A hospital official confirmed the casualties. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to media.

Health & Fitness

Cell transplants at U of M could provide diabetes cure

By DAN BROWNING
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE/MCT

Dave Thoen works out in Eden Prairie, Minnestoa, on May 2, 2013. Thoen received "islet" cells to treat his form of diabetes.

MINNEAPOLIS—Dave Thoen feared being alone at night, knowing he could be blindsided at any time by a debilitating, even deadly, seizure.

The Bloomington, Minn., actuary suffered from both diabetes and a condition called "hypoglycemic unawareness," which blocks the telltale signs of low blood sugar. Despite frequent blood tests and obsessive attention to diet and exercise, seizures could strike him like a hammer—like the blackout that occurred one night during a business trip to Los Angeles. When Thoen regained consciousness, he found himself locked outside his room and covered in blood. His spasms apparently had caused him to bang his head repeatedly into the nightstand.

"I literally had to crawl to the hotel desk," Thoen recalled.

Today those fears are a memory. Thoen is one of 48 people to receive a set of groundbreaking experimental treatments at the University of Minnesota, which proved that transplants of insulin-producing cells known as "islet cells" can treat—and sometimes cure—Type 1 diabetes, one of the nation's most serious health scourges.

After more than three decades of research, a consortium of schools that includes the University of Minnesota has completed testing on the transplant technique. Now, the U is preparing to apply to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for a license to become a manufacturing facility. University officials say a "biological drug license" would allow them to commercialize the new treatment, which has cost the U at least $25 million in grants and donations so far. That, they say, would represent a unique example of a university bringing a new treatment directly from academic research to human applications without any company funding.

"That is completely and entirely unheard of," said Dr. Bernhard J. Hering, who directs the project at the U.

If the FDA approves, Hering said, a doctor will be able to prescribe human islets instead of insulin injections. Somewhere between 60 and 70 percent of patients who receive the cells could expect to remain insulin-free after five years, Hering said.

Even those who must still take some insulin, like Thoen, say the operation is life-changing. Before the treatment, Thoen said, he felt guilty relying on family and friends to take care of him. After the treatment, he was able to take his two boys to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness on a camping trip, something he says he wouldn't have dared in the past.

"The transformation for me has been just absolutely amazing," he said.

Some 26 million Americans have diabetes, and the number is growing at a pace that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has called "unsustainable."About 95 percent have Type 2 diabetes, which is often caused by poor diet and insufficient exercise. It occurs when islet cells in the pancreas fail to produce enough insulin—a hormone that converts food into glucose—or when the cells cease to recognize it.

About 1.5 million people have Type 1 diabetes, which results when the body's autoimmune system destroys its own islet cells. Of those, 100,000 share Thoen's condition of hypoglycemic unawareness.

People with unregulated diabetes face serious complications including blindness, heart and kidney failure, sexual dysfunction, nerve damage and death.

Stephanie Arneson, 49, of Rogers, Minn., was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at age 3. She tried everything to regulate her blood sugar, including an insulin pump, changes in her injection regimen and special training programs.

"Nothing seemed to help," Arneson said. "I would have the ambulance at my house three times a month."

The disease led to blindness in her left eye.

The last straw came when Arneson blacked out while driving and hit a concrete wall. Her doctor referred her to the experimental transplant program at the U. She rejected her first donor cells in 2001. But two additional transplants in 2003 took, and she's been insulin-free since.

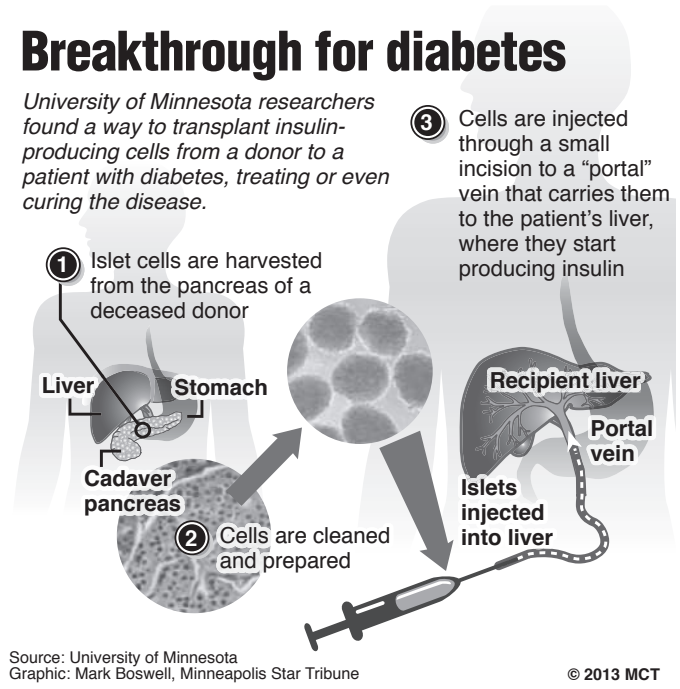
Arneson, a human relations worker and mother of two daughters, said she never knew life without diabetes until then. In the past, for example, feelings of thirst indicated high blood sugar. She called Dr. Hering in a panic one time thinking that she must be rejecting her islet cells because she was thirsty, but her blood tests were normal.

"He said, 'Stephanie, people get thirsty,' " Arneson recalled. "This whole normal thing is so hard to get used to."

The genesis of the U's islet transplant program came in 1974, when surgeons David Sutherland and John Najarian performed the first transplant from a deceased donor to a living recipient. Decades of research followed. The University of Alberta in Edmonton achieved a major breakthrough with a protocol using multiple donors, but the recipients returned to insulin after a year or two. In 2005, the U developed a new protocol to harvest cells from a single donor and reported last year that the recipients had remained off insulin, or nearly free of it, after many years.

"So now that has become the new standard," Hering said.

The procedure goes like this: When a donor pancreas becomes available, its islet cells are harvested and cleaned. Then they're injected through a small incision in the recipient's belly into a "portal" vein, which delivers them to the liver (the pancreas itself is fragile and hard to reach). They settle in and begin producing insulin. The patient then receives immunosuppressants, which keep the body from attacking the foreign cells.


Breakthrough for diabetes
University of Minnesota researchers found a way to transplant insulin-producing cells from a donor to a patient with diabetes, treating or even curing the disease.
1 Islet cells are harvested from the pancreas of a deceased donor
Liver
Stomach
Cadaver pancreas
2 Cells are cleaned and prepared
3 Cells are injected through a small incision to a "portal" vein that carries them to the patient's liver, where they start producing insulin
Recipient liver
Portal vein
Islets injected into liver
Source: University of Minnesota
Graphic: Mark Boswell, Minneapolis Star Tribune
© 2013 MCT

EPA: Nearly 26M Americans continue to live with asthma

WASHINGTON—Throughout May, as part of Asthma Awareness Month, EPA is encouraging Americans to take simple steps to prevent asthma attacks while also honoring three leading asthma management programs for their efforts to improve the lives of people with asthma in underserved communities.

The economic costs of asthma amounts to more than $56 billion per year from direct medical costs and indirect costs, such as missed school and work days. During President Obama's administration, EPA has made significant progress in improving air quality. In 2012, EPA strengthened the national standard for fine particle pollution, often called soot, which has been linked to a wide range of serious health effects including aggravated asthma. In 2011, former EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson signed the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS), which will help avoid 130,000 cases of aggravated asthma by 2016.

"Today one out of every 12 people suffers from asthma—and the numbers are increasing year after year," said EPA acting administrator Bob Perciasepe. "With President Obama's support, EPA has taken commonsense steps towards cleaner air, which translates to fewer asthma attacks and instances of other respiratory diseases. As we mark Asthma Awareness Month, we call on all Americans to learn more about the easy ways they can avoid asthma triggers and prevent future attacks from happening to them or their loved ones."

Asthma is a national epidemic, affecting nearly 26 million people, including seven million children and disproportionally affecting low income and minority communities. The EPA is conducting a coordinated approach to promoting scientific understanding of environmental asthma triggers and ways to manage asthma through research, education and community-focused outreach.

» SC, IN, TX programs honored as national models for asthma care

Serving as a national model for asthma care, the following programs are leading the way in addressing asthma disparities and are the winners of the 2013 National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management:

■ **Greenville Health System (Greenville, S.C.):** A multidisciplinary, multilingual, family-centered program that is able to, with partner collaboration, provide medical care, case management, school/daycare visits, and environmental control home visits for over 4,000 children and adolescents with asthma, especially those who have limited access to health care.

¾ **Parkview Health (Fort Wayne, Ind.):** The program addresses the growing incidence of asthma-related illnesses in the communities they serve. Support services, resources and age-appropriate educational information on asthma are provided. Those that are a part of the Emergency Department Asthma Call Back Program, including a high number of low-income individuals, are provided home visits to assess and minimize environmental asthma triggers.

■ **North East Independent School District (San Antonio, Texas):** The urban, diversified school district's Asthma Awareness Education Program targets the more than 8,000 students with asthma and provides direct case management strategies including counseling with families, home visits, coordination with asthma specialists, and asthma education.

State and local asthma programs across the country can take action throughout the month of May by holding community-based events to increase awareness of asthma triggers and the successful strategies for managing exposure to triggers.

American's who suffer from asthma can learn to control their symptoms and still maintain active lifestyles with these three simple steps:

1. Identify asthma triggers and avoid them. Air pollution, dust mites, secondhand smoke, mold, pests, pet dander can trigger asthma attacks. Identify and avoid personal asthma triggers—different people are affected differently. Work with your doctor to identify and avoid your triggers.

2. Create an asthma action plan. An asthma action plan will enable you to monitor your asthma on a daily basis and communicate important information about your personal asthma triggers and asthma control strategies. Ask your doctor to assist you in creating an asthma action plan.

3. Pay attention to air quality. Exposure to ozone and particle pollution can cause asthma attacks. When air quality is low, people with asthma may want to stay indoors, use air conditioning instead of open windows, and avoid outdoor activity. Check local air quality conditions and download an Air Quality Index app for smart phones. ***(EPA)***

Life & Style

Leo and Tobey, finally together in 'The Great Gatsby'

NEW YORK (AP)—Tobey Maguire didn't have to go far when Leonardo DiCaprio called him about meeting to discuss an adaptation of "The Great Gatsby" with Baz Luhrmann.

"I happened to live next door to Leo at the time, so it wasn't a far journey," Maguire says. "I was like, 'Oh, yeah. Sure. I can be over in 30 seconds if that's good for you.'"

"The Great Gatsby" is the first film of note co-starring the two longtime pals. It's fitting, too, because they play the classic tandem of the desperate romantic Jay Gatsby (DiCaprio) and his lone friend, the narrator Nick Carraway (Maguire)—who, not unlike Maguire, lives adjacent to Gatsby.

Working together on a film is a long time coming for DiCaprio and Maguire. In a recent joint interview at the Plaza Hotel in New York, the two cheerfully reflected on their close friendship, flashing occasional glimpses of the same boyish competitiveness that first brought them together as child actors vying for the same parts.

"After I met Tobey at an audition, I felt like I wanted this guy to be my friend," recalls DiCaprio. "I remember driving back from school and he was doing 'Hot Rod Brown Class Clown' with Whoopi Goldberg outside Hollywood High. It was a high school. And I jumped out of my car in the middle of the scene, as they were shooting, practically. I was like, 'Tobey! Tobey! Tobey! Give me your number.' He was like, 'Yeah, who are you again?'"

Maguire

DiCaprio

That began some 25 years of a friendship that hasn't been warped by time or fame. They've remained steadfast while their careers ascended from frantically chasing parts in "Critters 3" (DiCaprio's film debut; Maguire got turned down) to being among Hollywood's top leading men.

They've taken different routes. DiCaprio broke out as a teen idol in "Titanic," star power he then used to tackle ambitious roles with top-tier directors like Martin Scorsese ("The Aviator," ''Shutter Island"), Steven Spielberg ("Catch Me If You Can") and Clint Eastwood ("J. Edgar"). Maguire built himself through acclaimed dramas ("The Ice Storm," ''Wonder Boys," ''The Cider House Rules") before landing the "Spider-Man" franchise.

"Every project we do, we talk about," says DiCaprio. "Every single choice I've made, I've talked to Tobey about and vice versa. We've had endless conversations about certain projects and argued with one another and supported one another along the way."

Maguire, 37, and DiCaprio, 38, both grew up in divorced families of modest means in Los Angeles.

"We both came from similar upbringings," says DiCaprio. "We had humble beginnings, let's put it that way. We both were these young, very enthusiastic, ambitious young men that really wanted to get our foot in the door."

They share two previous credits: The first is the 1993 Tobias Wolff adaptation, "This Boy's Life," in which DiCaprio beat out Maguire for the role opposite Robert De Niro's domineering stepfather. The two, though, had made a pact that if either got the lead, he would help the other get cast in a supporting role. Maguire played a smaller part.

The two also starred in the 2001 low-budget, black-and-white film "Don's Plum." The actors discount the film, which spawned lawsuits over attempts for it to be theatrically released.

The film (which remains unreleased) was shot in the '90s by their then-friend R.D. Robb, and captures Maguire and DiCaprio in a fictionalized version of the late-night carousing they were infamous for as young actors in Hollywood. They, along with other friends like Lukas Haas, Kevin Connolly and others, were memorably branded with an alliterative label for their girl chasing. Maguire is now married to Jennifer Meyer with two children.

Over the years, DiCaprio and Maguire have often sought to do something together, but the right movie didn't come along until "Gatsby."

"It's always been about having enough meat on the bone for two actors to be in the same space," says DiCaprio, laughing as Maguire nods. "Is there enough to do? I mean, you've got a great role, but is there enough for me to do?"

Luhrmann calls them "a true partnership."

"I would have looked at Tobey anyway in the role of Nick Carraway because Tobey is exquisite with the still-waters-run-deep characterization," says Luhrmann, who also directed DiCaprio in 1996's "Romeo + Juliet." ''He and Leonardo's relationship really counted for something. We all knew that if we were going to go through this journey, it would be a plus that we were friends."

On "Gatsby," the pair swore to be "brutally honest with one another," DiCaprio says, depending on their years of friendship to make them "partners in crime."

Q&A: Aretha Franklin talks biopic, Gospelfest

NEW YORK (AP)—Long before she became the queen of soul, Aretha Franklin sang in her father's Baptist church in Detroit.

On Saturday, she'll headline the annual McDonald's Gospelfest at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J. Donnie McClurkin, Hezekiah Walker and Cissy Houston will be featured.

But that's not the only event on Franklin's weekend calendar. She also has a meeting about her upcoming biopic, which has been in the works for years. Franklin says she's heavily involved in the project, including who will play her in the film. Front-runners include Jennifer Hudson and Tony winner Audra McDonald.

"I just try to come up with the names I feel are going to best present this, who are the people that will best present my biopic and what I have in mind," the 71-year-old singer said in an interview Thursday with The Associated Press.

AP: Who's going to be a part of the meeting about your biopic?

Franklin: Mr. (Clive) Davis has gotten in the group and Suzanne de Passe, who co-wrote 'Lady Sings the Blues.' Taylor Hackford, who did ... 'Ray' ... and the William Morris agent and myself. Those are the principals that will be meeting this weekend.

AP: What do you think about Audra McDonald starring in the film?

Franklin

Franklin: The question where Audra is concerned is whether or not Audra can get into soul. That would be the question because she has the voice, she has a beautiful instrument. I just wonder how far she can get over into soul.

AP: What about Jennifer Hudson? She has a lot of soul.

Franklin: Jennifer would come up with some good things.

AP: Anyone else?

Franklin: The rest would come out of the producer's book. People that they want me to listen to that I may not know.

AP: Some people are upset because Zoe Saldana is playing Nina Simone in that biopic and they don't believe she resembles Simone.

Franklin: I did know Nina and I would have liked to see someone with a little more of a likeness and hopefully played the piano. But I don't know Ms. Saldana's work and Hollywood can do a lot of things in terms of changing your features and all of that.

AP: What's it like to perform for gospel fans?

Franklin: It's just being me and back at home—that's it. Just being back on the old campground; that's how I was brought up. I came up in gospel. Like Johnnie Taylor used to say, 'I'm an old gospel singer.'

AP: What are you going to sing?

Franklin: I'm going to sing some things from 'Amazing Grace' and then 'One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism.'

AP: Are you working with Babyface on your new album?

Franklin: Clive (Davis) has talked to Face and to Danger Mouse about producing my new CD for RCA. And right now I am just waiting to hear from them to see exactly what they are going to do.

AP: What sound do you want to take on?

Franklin: Well, I'm not producing it. I'm just waiting to see what they come with. ... It should be good. As long as it's good music. I love all music. It's got to be constructed properly.

AP: I know you're a fan of Adele, and she's covered some of your songs. Would you ever do a duet with her?

Franklin: I think it would be good. ... She has some great material. I like her material. She's a very fine writer. (Her songs) were all very original and all very different.

Isla Fisher packs one-two summer-movie punch

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Now you see her—twice.

Yes, that's Isla Fisher appearing in two of the first major films of the summer-movie season: the latest adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby" as well as the crime caper "Now You See Me."

"It's really exciting," Fisher says. "I guess I don't feel any pressure because I'm not the lead in either movie."

In "Gatsby," she's the ill-fated Myrtle Wilson—logging precious, but little, screen time. In "Now You See Me," Fisher plays one of a quartet of magicians who use their talents to take back money from immoral millionaires and return it to the people they bilked. The film boasts an all-star cast, including Morgan Freeman and Woody Harrelson. "And Mark Ruffalo is chasing after us, and Melanie Laurent and Michael Caine," she added in a recent interview. "(It's) basically a lot of people nominated for Oscars—and then me, a SAG member, committing these heists."

During filming of "Now You See Me," Fisher had a close call.

"I was chained under water," the 37-year-old Australian-raised actress recalled. "I had a quick release on my wrists and a quick release on my feet, but the chain that was tying my wrists to my ankles ... It got looped around the bottom of the tank. I'd already been under for two-and-a-half minutes, and I couldn't get up for air. And I did have a moment of, just, 'Oh my gosh. Not in a swimming costume. No one wants to go in a swimming costume."

Fisher, who has two children with actor-husband Sacha Baron Cohen, seemed poised for name-above-the-title stardom after a breakout performance in the 2005 comedy "Wedding Crashers" and headlining the 2010 comedy "Confessions of a Shopaholic," which grossed more than $100 million worldwide.

1969 Hendrix telegram: Can Paul come to play?

LONDON (AP)—Miles and Jimi. Jimi and Miles. Fans of the late trumpet and guitar masters have long known that Miles Davis and Jimi Hendrix had been making plans to record together in the year before Hendrix's sudden death in 1970.

But less attention has been paid to the bass player they were trying to recruit: Paul McCartney, who was busy with another band at the time.

This tantalizing detail about the super group that never was—jazz standout Tony Williams would have been on drums—is contained in an oft-overlooked telegram that Hendrix sent to McCartney at The Beatles' Apple Records in London on Oct. 21, 1969.

"We are recording and LP together this weekend in New-York," it says, complete with typographical errors. "How about coming in to play bass stop call Alvan Douglas 212-5812212. Peace Jimi Hendrix Miles Davis Tony Williams."

The telegram has been part of the Hard Rock Cafe memorabilia collection since it was purchased at auction in 1995. Still it has only generated attention in recent months with the successful release of "People, Hell & Angels," expected to be the last CD of Hendrix's studio recordings.

"It's not something you hear about a lot," Hard Rock historian Jeff Nolan said of the telegram, now displayed at the restaurant in Prague. "Major Hendrix connoisseurs are aware of it. It would have been one of the most insane supergroups. These four cats certainly reinvented their instruments and the way they're perceived."

French promoter and Hendrix fanatic Yazid Manou, who has researched the telegram, says it offers a glimpse of what might have been.

"It's amazing because of the names of the people," he said. "Of course that didn't happen, but the telegram brings us something to dream about. This is a document, proof that they had an idea to do an album."

The telegram raises more questions than it answers. It advises McCartney to contact producer Alan Douglas (whose first name is misspelled in the cable) if he could make the session. But it's not clear if McCartney was even aware of the unusual, apparently impromptu invitation to rush from his London base to New York for the planned session.

Beatle aide Peter Brown replied on McCartney's behalf, telling Hendrix the following day that McCartney was on vacation and not expected back for another two weeks.

The invitation came at an extremely awkward moment for the Beatles' bassist. It was sent the same day a prominent New York City radio station gave wide exposure to a rumor that McCartney had died in a car crash and been replaced by a lookalike. The bizarre story, supposedly supported by hints on Beatles records and album covers, briefly gained worldwide credibility. Its dark nature apparently prompted the exasperated McCartney to retreat with his family to their farm in Scotland.

It also came at a time when the Beatles were falling apart due to business and artistic conflicts that likely would have been exacerbated by McCartney appearing on a record with Hendrix and Davis. McCartney was also still bound by a songwriting partnership with John Lennon that might have further complicated the release of any McCartney-Hendrix-Davis compositions.

Korean pop sensation cracks jokes at Harvard

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts (AP)—South Korean rapper PSY was welcomed to Harvard University on Thursday night by hundreds of screaming and shouting students and fans, as the "Gangnam Style" star participated in a conversation inside an ornate church dedicated to the memory of those who lost their lives in World War I.

PSY began addressing students and faculty by noting that his presence at the Ivy League school "is so weird."

He recalled spending four years studying management at Boston University while marveling at Harvard from afar. He joked about his academic performance while at school in Boston, saying he was known by a nickname of WWF—which, he said, stands for withdrawal, withdrawal, failure.

AP

Korean pop star PSY speaks in Memorial Church at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass., Thursday, May 9, 2013.

The pop star, whose real name is Park Jae-sang, also joked that he's heard that he is the first person to make a speech at Harvard without a written script.

Harvard professor of Korean History Carter Eckert said the discussion was looking at PSY as a modern global digital culture phenomenon.

PSY cracked jokes throughout this speech and said he was very shocked as his "Gangnam Style" video went viral. He said he was overwhelmed by its success and doesn't realistically expect to replicate the feat.

"Gangnam Style" was YouTube's most-viewed video with more than 1.5 billion views, and his new single, "Gentleman" has more than 300 million views.

"Gangnam style was not normal. Gangnam was not standard ... that was an accident and accidents don't happen often," he said.

"I gotta be humble, I gotta be humble, I know I gotta be humble because this does not happen to everybody—especially for Asian artists. They tried a lot knocking the door to the U.S. market, but it didn't happen," PSY said.

Letter suggests location of Kilmer's poem 'Trees'

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP)—"I think that I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree," Joyce Kilmer wrote. A historian says he now has irrefutable proof that Kilmer was stirred by the New Jersey woods—ending a long dispute over the site of his inspiration.

Alex Michelini of the Joyce Kilmer Society said Friday a letter written in 1929 by Kilmer's widow, Aline, to a graduate student shows the poem, "Trees," was written on Feb. 2, 1913 at the couple's former home.

A notebook Michelini found at Georgetown University's Lauinger Library contains the first two lines of the poem, written in neat black cursive on a yellow page.

Michelini said the notebook is the "holy grail" for those who have spent years trying to prove Kilmer wrote the poem in Mahwah, New Jersey.

"I think it's important for literary history to know," Michelini said.

Indeed, the area where the Kilmers lived remains heavily wooded.

Kate Upton goes 'Vogue,' covering its June issue

NEW YORK (AP)—Kate Upton has gone from a Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue cover model to the front page of Vogue.

Upton tells Vogue that runway modeling is "not what I set out to do" and that she desires to front a major fashion campaign and maybe even launch her own lingerie line.

She also says she would like to continue acting. Upton has appeared in "The Three Stooges" and "Tower Heist." She's also got a part in an upcoming film called "The Other Woman" starring Cameron Diaz and Leslie Mann.

Of her various goals she says, "I'm American—more is more!"

This week, Upton attended the annual Met Ball in New York, which is hosted by Vogue.

The Vogue June issue goes on sale May 21.

In this image released by Vogue, model Kate Upton graces the cover of the June 2013 issue.

AP

Lucasfilm: New 'Star Wars' movie to be shot in UK

LONDON (AP)—The next "Star Wars" movie will be shot in a galaxy far, far away from Hollywood—Britain.

Lucasfilm President Kathleen Kennedy says the company has reached a deal with British Treasury chief George Osborne to make "Star Wars: Episode VII" in the U.K.

She said Friday that the production company was "revisiting the origins of 'Star Wars'" for the new movie. Parts of all six previous movies were made in Britain.

Osborne said the announcement was "great news for fans and our creative industries."

"Star Wars" maker Lucasfilm was bought last year for $4.05 billion by The Walt Disney Co., which has announced plans for a new trilogy of films.

The first new movie, directed by sci-fi wunderkind J.J. Abrams ("Star Trek"), is due for release in 2015.

Universal announces new Harry Potter expansion

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)—Fans of Harry Potter and magic, rejoice: Universal Orlando is expanding its Wizarding World of Harry Potter with a new area based on the books' fictional scenes in Diagon Alley and London.

Universal Orlando announced Wednesday the new area will open in 2014.

"For Harry Potter fans, this is an opportunity to go to multiple places that are iconic places within the story," said Mark Woodbury, president of Universal Creative for Universal Parks and Resorts. "And people that were really not big fans of the franchise came to the Wizarding World of Harry Potter and were immersed in the environment and really thought it was marvelous. We have the same expectation to take them on additional journeys."

It will be built on what was the "Jaws" ride in the Universal Studios Florida park, which is next to Islands of Adventure—where Hogwarts and Hogsmeade are located.

Park officials said the two areas will be connected by the Hogwarts Express train, just like in the books and films.

The new Diagon Alley area will feature shops, a restaurant and an attraction based on Gringotts bank, which, in the J.K. Rowling series, is run by goblins.

Universal said it is working with Warner Bros. and the production design team from the Harry Potter films, just like it did for the Hogwarts and Hogsmeade themed area.

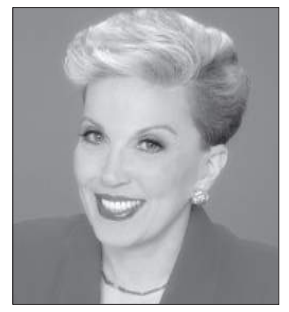
"I'm so pleased that The Wizarding World of Harry Potter has proved so popular to date, and I'm sure that the attention to detail in creating the new Diagon Alley area will make this an even better experience," J.K. Rowling said in a news release.

The Wizarding World of Harry Potter—Hogsmeade opened in June 2010.

Universal Orlando's new 3-D theme park ride based on the Transformers toy and film brand will open June 20.

Groom, not the bride, is under pressure to change his name

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My wife's niece is marrying a wonderful man of Greek descent this summer. Her grandfather insists that his last name is too long and impossible to pronounce. He thinks they need to change the name when they marry. He went so far as to make them call him so he could tell them what he wanted. Then he gave them 10 days to "think about it" and call him back with their answer.

He told the mother of the bride that if they don't change the name, then he's "just not into the wedding anymore," implying that he won't help them pay for the event. Needless to say, this has most of the family shaking their heads and thinking the old man has finally lost it.

We understand that this was common practice for families passing through Ellis Island coming to America a century ago, but have you ever heard of this being done for a wedding? Being a therapist, I thought I'd seen and heard it all—until now. Please give us some insight. I'm hoping his "ladyfriend" will read your reply and share it with him.

CAN'T BELIEVE IT DOWN SOUTH

DEAR CAN'T BELIEVE IT: You have described a man who is used to being in control and is not above using his money to manipulate. A century ago when people came to this country through Ellis Island, many of them were escaping discrimination and wanted to leave their past behind them, which is why they Americanized their names.

Others had it done "for" them by government officials who couldn't understand them when they pronounced their names and wrote down what they thought they heard. (Years ago, in Sioux City, Iowa, my mother knew two brothers who walked through different lines and wound up with the names "Ginsberg" and "Landsberg." I don't know which was correct.) Still others were so eager to become "Americans" that they shortened or changed their names for that reason.

I sincerely hope no one is expecting Granddad to pay for the upcoming wedding. That he would attempt to blackmail the young couple in this way is shameful. Let's hope they are mature enough to ignore him, and that they have a long and happy life together. Opa!

DEAR ABBY: Our youngest daughter will graduate from college next month. The school is 10 hours away by car or a 2 1/2-hour plane ride. There are no direct flights.

My husband and I are excited about this special day, and so is his 82-year-old mother. (I'll call her Ethel.) She mentioned yesterday that she's excited to go.

Abby, Ethel is not a well woman. She has trouble walking, falls occasionally and hasn't been out of this town for 30 years. She is also hypercritical. She does nothing but complain about other people, her health, this country, etc. Looking after her would be a huge burden.

We'd like to attend this milestone event without the added stress of taking care of her. My husband and I have been married 25 years, and Ethel still complains about me. Because she's such a handful, we have never taken her to dinner or a movie. How do we (kindly) tell her that what she has in mind is not going to be possible?

READY TO CELEBRATE IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR READY TO CELEBRATE: You and your husband should tell his mother that graduations in the best of circumstances are stressful events and can be difficult for someone who is unsteady on her feet. You could also mention that seating is limited, because it often is at graduations. Then offer to videotape the ceremony so she doesn't have to miss it.

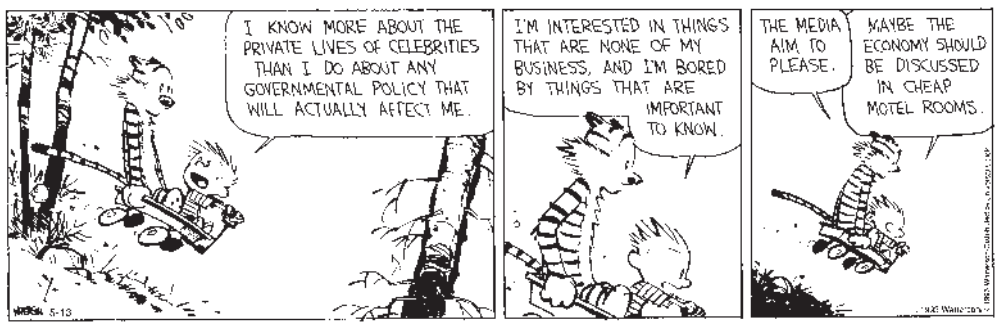
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

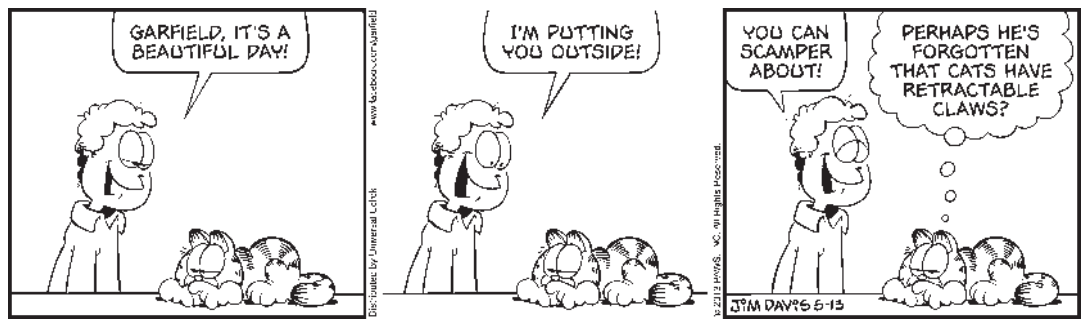
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PRIVATE LIVES OF CELEBRITIES THAN I DO ABOUT ANY GOVERNMENTAL POLICY THAT WILL ACTUALLY AFFECT ME.
I'M INTERESTED IN THINGS THAT ARE NONE OF MY BUSINESS, AND I'M BORED BY THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO KNOW.
THE MEDIA AIM TO PLEASE.
MAYBE THE ECONOMY SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN CHEAP MOTEL ROOMS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


GARFIELD, IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY!
I'M PUTTING YOU OUTSIDE!
YOU CAN SCAMPER ABOUT!
PERHAPS HE'S FORGOTTEN THAT CATS HAVE RETRACTABLE CLAWS?

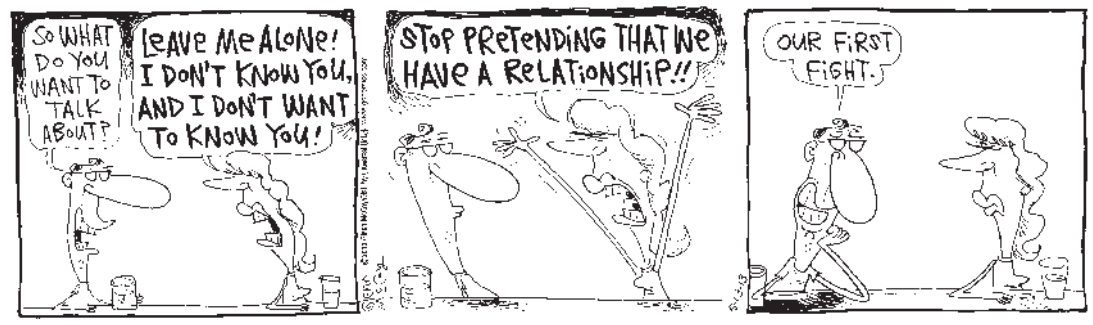
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

I THINK I'M GETTING SICK.
OH, NO!
I GET A COLD EVERY YEAR AT THIS TIME. REMEMBER LAST YEAR?
WHEN YOU WATCHED ALL OF "THE WIRE"?
THAT WAS TWO COLDS AGO. LAST YEAR WAS THE "MAD MEN" COLD.
THEN WHEN WAS "BATTLESTAR GALACTICA"?
A LONG TIME AGO, IN A GALAXY NOT RUINED BY LUCAS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


SO WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
LEAVE ME ALONE! I DON'T KNOW YOU, AND I DON'T WANT TO KNOW YOU!
STOP PRETENDING THAT WE HAVE A RELATIONSHIP!!
OUR FIRST FIGHT.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Do arithmetic
4 Long tales
9 Stitch
12 Take to court
13 Treasure cache
14 Work with
15 Newly-weds' trip
17 Siesta
18 Chicken-king link
19 Waldorf salad ingredient
21 Floated on air
24 Remain
25 Ostrich's cousin
26 Blue
28 Ruhr Valley city
31 Tear
33 Cry loudly
35 Apiary structure
36 Boredom
38 Solidify
40 Morning moisture
41 Village People hit
43 Express sorrow for
45 Like a duck's feet
47 — Jima
48 Past
49 Wealthy one
54 Beer container
55 Over
56 Life story, for short
57 Praise in verse
58 "When pigs fly!"
59 Conclusion

DOWN
1 Fire residue
2 Pair
3 Lair
4 Fashions
5 Fleets
6 Sticky stuff
7 Acknowledges
8 Washington group
9 Optimist's part of the street?
10 Jacob's brother
11 Cried
16 Dine
20 Whip
21 "The Way We —"
22 "So be it"
23 Sense of humor
27 Pooch
29 Tied
30 Mr. Gingrich
32 Foolish
34 Accept as true
37 "The — Cometh"
39 Attorney
42 Pueblo brick
44 Unruly bunch
45 Texas city
46 "Zounds!"
50 Autumn mo.
51 Honest politician
52 Martini ingredient
53 Turf

Solution time: 27 mins.

I	T	S		B	O	B		D	A	M	U	P	
N	E	W		A	V	E		U	N	I	T	E	
L	E	A		J	E	T	S	E	I	E	R		
A	T	M		A	R	T	E	L					
W	H	I	Z		D	Y	E		B	R	A	G	
			O	H	O		D	I	I	U	T	F	
N	O	O	N	E				R	I	G	E	L	
A	D	V	E	R	B		W	E	I				
P	E	A	S		R	A	H		Z	A	N	Y	
			S	A	V	F	S		P	O	F		
S	H	A	R	K	T	A	N	K		S	I	N	
K	O	R	E	A		I	C	E		E	S	T	
I	D	E	S	T		L	E	W		S	C	A	

Friday's answer 5-13

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lena Dunham, 27; Robert Pattinson, 27; Stephen Colbert, 49; Stevie Wonder, 63

Happy Birthday: Pick and choose what you do carefully. Your motives must be good if you don't want to experience interference. An imaginative approach to the way you make and handle your money will help you stabilize your finances for future investments. What you learn this year will encourage and help you secure a better future. Give and take will be necessary. Your numbers are 5, 12, 22, 24, 36, 40, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Take advantage of the changes going on around you. It's the perfect time to implement something into your schedule that you've always wanted to pursue. Don't limit what you can do. Being adaptable will result in personal opportunities. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Focus on money matters and how you can earn more. Upgrade your skills or take a course that will train you to do something specialized. Keeping a secret will protect you; telling a lie will not. Know your boundaries. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Do something you feel passionate about and you will be successful. Share your thoughts and plans with people who have something to contribute. Greater security can be yours, but get what you want in writing, as empty promises are apparent. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Emotions will escalate based on the information you fall privy to receiving from an unreliable source. Don't jump to conclusions or make the mistake of acting too quickly. Put more into self-improvement projects, not trying to change others. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Problems dealing with a partner, lover or your job will cause worry and anxiety. Answer questions cautiously to avoid jeopardizing your reputation. Honesty mixed with a little Leo charm and the willingness to compromise will improve your situation. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Do your best to please others and you will get favors in return. What you learn from participating in an exercise, seminar or event will help you diversify what you have to offer. Don't let an emotional relationship stand between you and success. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Emotional matters will surface. Deception, misinterpretation or mistaking what's actually intended or being offered to you will be a problem. Ask questions and do follow-up to avoid an error that can leave you or someone else in the lurch. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): A short trip to visit an old friend, relative or neighbor will help you learn more about your roots. You may want to rethink your strategy and come up with a plan that fits your changing lifestyle. A business partnership looks promising. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll gravitate toward adventure, but make sure that you don't spend or react impulsively. Being fair is the key to making the changes that will suit your needs, budget and whatever personal relationship you are in or contemplating. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Make improvements to your surroundings. Discuss your plans with someone who shares your concerns and recognizes the importance of maintaining a strict budget. Don't let love turn into a costly situation. Invest in you, not in someone else. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Not everyone will be accommodating. Keep your plans a secret for the time being until you have worked out the details. Expanding your interests will lead to an encounter with someone who will become quite special to you. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Stick to the people, places and pastimes you know well. Be honest about the way you feel and avoid anyone trying to pressure or use you to get ahead. Offer suggestions but don't donate, invest or offer cash. Deception will lead to sorrow. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are determined, disciplined and imaginative. You are just and protective.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7			6			1	
1	6		9		7		3	5
		3				2		
	9		5		4		6	
5								8
	8		3		1		2	
		4				1		
3	2		8		6		5	7
	1			2			9	

Difficulty Level ★ 5/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

6	9	1	8	2	7	4	5	3
5	8	3	1	4	6	9	2	7
4	2	7	5	9	3	6	1	8
2	7	5	4	8	9	1	3	6
9	1	4	3	6	2	7	8	5
3	6	8	7	5	1	2	4	9
8	3	9	6	1	4	5	7	2
1	5	2	9	7	8	3	6	4
7	4	6	2	3	5	8	9	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/10

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CARAMEL POPCORN **Solution: 4 letters**

C	T	S	G	N	I	Y	F	S	I	T	A	S	C	P
D	A	E	D	N	D	Y	T	T	U	N	W	O	R	B
C	E	R	M	N	A	P	A	C	K	A	G	E	U	A
P	H	R	A	R	A	T	H	C	N	U	M	T	N	L
O	E	C	E	M	U	R	U	C	R	A	V	E	C	L
P	Ⓡ	Y	R	V	E	O	B	R	D	T	A	E	H	G
P	S	Ⓘ	T	I	O	L	G	E	A	D	N	W	Y	A
E	A	S	Ⓒ	S	S	C	I	E	E	L	I	S	T	M
D	L	O	E	Ⓗ	A	P	R	Z	E	P	L	E	R	E
R	T	T	D	R	Y	T	A	N	E	L	L	S	A	S
R	Y	O	T	K	V	L	R	A	E	D	A	S	P	N
A	O	N	C	E	G	E	N	H	D	E	K	A	B	A
G	R	I	T	S	K	U	S	Y	F	F	U	L	F	C
U	T	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	A	V	O	R	K
S	R	E	T	S	U	L	C	C	I	N	E	M	A	S

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Baked, Ballgames, Brands, Brown, Butter, Candy, Caramelized, Cinema, Clusters, Covered, Crave, Crisp, Crunchy, Flavor, Fluffy, Glazed, Good, Gourmet, Kernel, Kettle, Molasses, Munch, Natural, Nutty, Package, Party, Peanuts, Popped, Premade, Reheat, Rich, Salty, Satisfying, Serve, Shell, Snacks, Sticky, Stir, Sugar, Sweet, Tasty, Treat, Vanilla

Last Friday's Answer: Black Hat

To order **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD**, Volume 26, 27, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36 or 37, call 1-800-642-6480. Order online at wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles, including 9 20x20 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

Cook (Japanese cuisine): $5.55/hr. Must be proficient in Japanese cuisine. At least 2 years' professional experience required. Email resume to chinayanbian@hanmisaipan.com.

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3-General Maintenance. Salary $5.55p/h. 3 yrs exp. required. Call Noah Manpower Services at 433-0260.

Royal Thai Massage is looking for 6 Masseuses w/ 1 yr. exp. Green card or US Citizen preferred. Call 234-2521.

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Large family home in Dandan 5 Br./3 bths. Unfurnished w/ new Ref., Stove, Washer, walled & gated, private. View of Laulau & Forbidden Isl., 3 stories, outside kitchen. Call 322-0268.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $250/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

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(1) Manager

Min. 5 yrs experience. Extensive knowledge in Accounting, Office Management & Insurance Industry. Ability to adjust in different working environments & deal with various clients of different ethnicity. Salary commensurate with work experience. Send police clearance together with cover letter & resume to friendshipinformation @gmail.com or Friendship Ent., Inc., P.O. Box 501193 CK, Saipan, MP 96950.

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- 2 – 4 years experience in the field or related area
- Strong working knowledge of smartphones and tablets
- Maintains, analyze, troubleshoots, and repairs computer systems, hardware and computer peripherals.
- Must have valid US Licensed in Computer Technology
- Salary $5.55/hr

Send resume and application letter to Ladringan Incorporated, P.O. Box 7374 SVRB, Saipan MP 96950 pr email at benjiefe@hotmail.com. Tel No. (670) 233-5641

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Building Ground Maintenance

Repairs and maintains physical structures and ground of houses and apartment buildings using hands and power tools. Replaces defective electrical and other fixtures, paint structures and repairs woodworks. Repairs plumbing fixtures and other assign tasks.

4 years experience in plumbing, masonry, painting, electrical, carpentry and ground maintenance skills. Salary: $5.55 p/h.

If interested call L&E House Rental at 322-5924

SN FIVE INCORPORATED - JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Opening Date: May 13, 2013 / Closing Date: May 20, 2013

1 BOOK KEEPER ($5.55 / hour)
- Must have a Bachelor of Science In Bookkeeping and /or Accounting
- Processing of sales invoices, receipts and payments
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- Dealing with financial paperwork and filing
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1 STEVEDORE SUPERVISOR ($5.55 / hour)
- Must be certified on the following: Community Emergency Response Team, and Handling and Transportation of Hazardous Materials
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- Must be computer literate
- Must have at least 5 years of Supervisory Experience

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- Must be able to maintain and fix any and all problems related to the engine and crane of the cargo ship
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- Must have a least 5 years of experience as Mechanic

3 STEVEDORE ($5.55 / hour)
- Must be knowledgeable in navigational charts and tide tables
- Must be certified in handling and transportation of hazardous materials and certified in community emergency response team
- Must have a least 5 years of experience as Stevedore

1 MASON ($5.55 / hour)
- Must have at least 5 years of masonry experience.
- Must be able to work flexible hours

1 FARMER ($5.55 / hour)
- Must have at least 5 years of farming experience and production of local charcoal.

1 COMBINED FOOD PREPARER AND SERVING WORKER ($5.55 /hour)
- Must have at least 5 years of experience in food preparation, cooking and serving .

Applicants must submit drug test results and a copy of police clearance.
Interested applicants can send their resume to sn5incorporated.tiq@gmail.com

---

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If interested, call 235-8748.

For SALE or RENT
3 STOREY BUILDING
1st Floor - BIG OFFICE SPACE
2ND FLOOR – APT UNITS:
Two (2 bedrooms, 1bathroom)
One (4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms)
3RD FLOOR – APT UNIT:
One (1 bedroom, 1 bathroom)
Call Maria at 989-7654

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JAGUAR LIMITED DBA CLUB MERMAID
5 SINGERS

Qualifications:
- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality.
- 3-5 years experience as a Singer in a Karaoke Bar or in an Entertainment Business.
- Full time with flexible working hours.
- Salary $5.55/hr.
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Please mail your resume to PMB 697 BOX 10000 Saipan, MP 96950 Contact our Office at Tel.: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM.

JOBEL CORPORATION
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Pacers protect home court, beat Knicks, 82-71

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—In Indianapolis, the Indiana Pacers kept everything in front of them Saturday night.

The Pacers didn't let the Knicks get away from them on fast breaks, didn't let the Knicks get good 3-point looks and didn't even give New York a chance to challenge late.

Instead, Roy Hibbert, Paul George and Indiana showed what it can do when it plays its game.

Hibbert finished with 24 points and 12 rebounds, while George nearly came up with another postseason triple double, leading the Pacers to a crucial 82-71 Game 3 victory and a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven Eastern Conference semifinals.

"That's how we play Pacers basketball," George said. "We just locked in, and it was just helping one another on the defensive end."

Sure, Indiana could have been sidetracked by the embarrassing 26-point loss at New York in Game 2. Or it could have gotten caught up in the pregame banter about Amare Stoudemire's impending return or J.R Smith's sudden illness.

But the Pacers never got distracted.

Coach Frank Vogel's bunch followed the same game plan it has all season—locking down defensively, winning the rebounding battle and protecting its home court.

Check, check and check.

Indiana limited the Knicks to 35.2 percent shooting from the floor, allowed just three 3-pointers and forced 15 turnovers. And, of course, the league's No. 1 rebounding team dominated the glass again, finishing with a 53-40 rebounding edge and a 20-10 edge in second-chance points.

It was enough to allow the Pacers to overcome a 28 for 80 shooting performance that included a season-high 33 3-point attempts.

"They outrebounded us, they won the hustle today, the little things," Carmelo Anthony said. "It all came down to us not scoring the basketball. ... We can't beat anyone scoring 71 points."

It's the same formula Indiana won Game 1, and now, if Indiana wins a fifth straight home playoff game Tuesday night, it will head back to Madison Square Garden with a commanding lead over a longtime rival.

How did the Pacers do it again? They relied on scoring balance and in-your-face defense.

HIbbert kept loose balls alive in his best playoff performance of this postseason. Vogel called it his best playoff game ever.

George struggled to score, finishing with 14 points, but he also had eight rebounds and eight assists and caused plenty of consternation for Anthony and others on defense.

AP

Indiana Pacers center Roy Hibbert, center right, is defended by New York Knicks center Tyson Chandler, left, and guard Raymond Felton during the first half of Game 3 of an Eastern Conference semifinal NBA basketball playoff series, in Indianapolis, Saturday, May 11, 2013.

David West got off to a slow start but finished with 11 points and 12 rebounds and George Hill knocked down five 3s and he finished with 17 points.

"We didn't change much in terms of our physicality," West said. "I just thought we were a little bit more precise defensively in terms of our communication and we shored some things up. We didn't allow them to get some of the things they got in the second game in New York."

The Knicks had only one player in double figures. Carmelo Anthony scored 21, but the NBA scoring champion went j6 of 16 from the field, managed only two points and no baskets in the fourth quarter and finished well below his playoff scoring average of 29.3.

He was hardly alone.

Smith gave it a go although his shooting woes continued. He went 4 of 12, scored nine points and walked directly to locker room when he was replaced midway through the fourth quarter. A few minutes later, he came back into the game and is now just 11 of 42 from the field in the series.

Stoudemire looked rusty in his return, making just 3 of 8 eight shots—one a dunk, another on a buzzer-beating 3-pointer to end the third quarter—and finished with seven points and two rebounds.

The Knicks led once in the game, for just 76 seconds, and barely escaped the ignominy of setting a franchise playoff record for fewest points in a game. The all-time low is 67. New York didn't hit 68 until Kenyon Martin's dunk with 1:39 to play.

"Offensively, we just didn't have anything," coach Mike Woodson said. "I thought defensively, we hung in there and did what we had had to do, but we just didn't have any offensive pop and we have to figure that out."

And fast or the second-seeded Knicks will spend the rest of this series playing catch-up.

New York had a chance midway through the third quarter when it closed the deficit to 44-41. But instead of faltering, as the Pacers did in Game 2, they thrived on New York's miscues.

When Tyson Chandler was called for his third foul, he lost his cool and was whistled for a technical foul. That allowed the Pacers to score three points on the possession. West followed that with a 19-foot jumper and after Chandler went 1-of-2 from the free throw line, Indiana seized control with a 9-0 run that made it 58-44.

Stoudemire's buzzer-beater to end the quarter got the Knicks within 62-51 and New York eventually got as close as 65-57 with 9:10 left. But Indiana answered with seven straight points and never let the Knicks challenge again.

"Our guys usually do what you emphasize," Vogel said. "We don't want to do it at the expense of giving up things up at the rim. But we were able to guard the paint and the 3-point line, and that's the goal."

Grizzlies 87, Thunder 81

In Memphis, Tenn., the Memphis Grizzlies call it grit and grind, and it got them through another ugly game.

Marc Gasol scored 20 points and hit two free throws with 1:03 left to put Memphis ahead to stay, and the Grizzlies held off Oklahoma City 87-81 Saturday to take a 2-1 lead in this Western Conference semifinal.

Gasol scored 16 in the second half as Memphis remained unbeaten at home in the postseason.

The Grizzlies pulled out the win in a choppy performance for both teams following a three-day layoff since Game 2 with the Thunder beating them at their own game, dominating the boards and in the paint. After struggling at the free throw line in Oklahoma City, the Grizzlies hit all six at the line in the final 1:03 to clinch it.

"We just stayed after it like we've done all year long," Memphis coach Lionel Hollins said. "It's not always pretty. Tonight wasn't pretty, but it was pretty for us because we got the win."

Game 4 is Monday night in Memphis, and Hollins wants one more home win for a franchise in its second Western semifinal in two seasons. The Grizzlies lost to Oklahoma City in seven games in 2011 after splitting Games 3 and 4 in Memphis. But they are 18-1 at home since Feb. 8.

"I'd rather take my chances with where we're sitting now and try to win all of our home games," Hollins said. "We got a long way to go, and we got to keep battling."

Kevin Durant scored 25 points, but only two in the fourth quarter. A 91 percent free throw shooter in the regular season, Durant missed two with 39.3 seconds left. Durant also had 11 rebounds and five assists.

"It's frustrating, but we can't hang our heads," Durant said. "We have to keep playing and keep improving. We just have to learn from it. We have to embrace the tough times and get better from it. I believe in my teammates."

Though his teammates, with Russell Westbrook out with a knee injury, need to give him more help.

The Thunder had their worst scoring and shooting performance this postseason. Reggie Jackson had 16 points for Oklahoma city, and Kevin Martin and Serge Ibaka each added 13. Jackson and Ibaka also grabbed 10 rebounds apiece. Durant went 3 of 11 from the floor in the second half, and his teammates went a combined 23 of 69 for the game.

Tony Allen had his best game in this series, scoring 14 points for Memphis. Jerryd Bayless added 11. Zach Randolph scored only eight points but had 10 rebounds.

"It was definitely a good feeling because we didn't play the best Grizzlies' basketball that we know we can play as a team," Randolph said.

Oklahoma City coach Scott Brooks insisted he liked the shots his Thunder took, even though they didn't get as many wide-open looks beyond the arc as they did in the first two games.

"We are hopeful that we get those same shots in the next game," Brooks said.

The Grizzlies built leads repeatedly, getting to as much as 10 in the second quarter.

Memphis won despite not winning in the categories the Grizzlies usually dominate. The Thunder outrebounded them 51-44, with a 14-5 edge on the offensive glass. The Thunder also outscored the Grizz 44-30 in the paint, with a 23-7 edge on fast-break points.

The Thunder didn't score after Derek Fisher hit a 3-pointer with 1:58 left, a shot tying for the eighth and final time at 81. The Grizzlies' edge came from getting to the line where they hit more free throws (23 of 28) than Oklahoma City even took (12 of 19).

"Obviously, they beat us in a lot of different areas tonight," said Memphis guard Mike Conley, who hit all four free throws in the final minute. "For us to come away with the win, we are very happy. We will take it, but it just goes to show we have a lot of work to do. We have to do better the next game."

The rust from the layoff showed early for both teams. Ibaka missed not one but two dunks in the first half, Thabo Sefolosha had an airball and the Grizzlies, who had been so good at limiting turnovers, had five in the first quarter alone.

Hollins switched up his defense on Durant from the first two games in Oklahoma City.

He didn't put Allen, who finished fifth in voting for Defensive Player of the Year, on Durant until the final minutes of Game 2. This time, he alternated Allen with Tayshaun Prince defending Durant throughout the first half. Allen played Durant most of the third, and that helped limit Durant to 2 of 7 shooting in the quarter as the Thunder went 4 of 20 from the floor.

"He is a great defender, don't get me wrong," Durant said about Allen. "But it's the Grizzlies' team defense. I need to make the right plays for my team. I missed a few shots in the second half."

Memphis led 66-60 at the end of the third quarter. The Grizzlies pushed that to 71-62 on a 3 by Keyon Dooling and a 19-foot jumper by Darrell Arthur. Then the Thunder scored six straight, the last on a dunk by Martin forcing Hollins to take a timeout.

The Grizzlies, who had hit only one of their first nine 3-pointers, hit 3 of 5 in the third quarter to take a 77-70 lead when Pondexter knocked down a 3 with 6:29 left. Pondexter also helped defend Durant in the fourth quarter.

The Thunder led 45-44 at halftime. Durant scored 14 of the Thunder's first 24 points as he connected on five of his first six shots.

The Grizzlies grabbed their biggest lead at 28-18 on a 28-footer by Bayless. Then Gasol picked up his second foul with 9:02 left and went to the bench for the rest of the half.

Lind's solo homer lifts Jays past Red Sox, 3-2

BOSTON (AP)—Adam Lind hit a tie-breaking homer off Boston closer Junichi Tazawa leading off the ninth inning to lift the Toronto Blue Jays to a 3-2 win over the Boston Red Sox on Saturday.

It was just the fifth win in 16 games for the struggling Blue Jays, who blew a 2-0 lead in the eighth.

Lind belted a 2-2 pitch from Tazawa (2-2) into the center field bleachers, sending Boston to its seventh loss in nine games.

Darren Oliver (2-1) got the win despite giving up the tying run.

Casey Janssen pitched the ninth for his 10th save in 10 chances. He allowed a leadoff double, but got the next three hitters.

AP

Toronto Blue Jays' Adam Lind (26) is greeted at the dugout after scoring on a single by teammate Colby Rasmus in the fourth inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox in Boston, Saturday, May 11, 2013.

Yankees 3, Royals 2

In Kansas City, Mo., Vernon Wells hit a go-ahead two-run homer then made a long running catch that preserved a victory for Andy Pettitte and the Yankees over the Royals.

Pettitte (4-2) showed off his mastery of the Royals once more, allowing a run-scoring groundout by Lorenzo Cain and a solo homer by Billy Butler in seven stellar innings. The 40-year-old left-hander gave up five hits, struck out seven and improved to 15-3 in his career against the Royals.

James Shields (2-3) was hurt by a throwing error on third baseman Mike Moustakas in the second inning that resulted in the Yankees' first run. He also gave up Wells' two-run shot in the fifth, moments after Butler's home run had staked Kansas City to 2-1 lead.

David Robertson struck out the side in the eighth for the Yankees, and Mariano Rivera worked around a two-out double by Salvador Perez in the ninth for his 14th save to start the season.

Twins 8, Orioles 5

In Minneapolis, Ryan Doumit homered, Joe Mauer and Justin Morneau each had three hits, and the Twins beat the Orioles, who lost for just the second time in seven games.

Vance Worley struggled through 5 1-3 innings, but a strong performance by Minnesota's bullpen enabled him to earn his first win in 13 starts dating to Aug. 1, 2012.

Matt Wieters connected for the Orioles.

Worley (1-4) gave up 11 hits and five earned runs. He struck out one but threw 111 pitches.

Making his season debut for the Orioles, starter Steve Johnson (0-1) cruised through the first two innings, before he began to get behind in counts and the Twins took advantage.

In four innings, he allowed seven hits and six earned runs while striking out three.

Angels 3, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Mike Trout hit a two-run homer and Jerome Williams pitched into the seventh inning to help the Angels beat the White Sox.

Williams (2-1) allowed two runs and scattered seven hits in 6 2-3 innings. He struck out three and walked one. After eight appearances out of the bullpen, Williams made his second start in place of the struggling Garrett Richards, who was filling in for injured Los Angeles ace Jered Weaver.

Jose Quintana (2-1) allowed three runs in the loss. He gave up five hits and struck out five.

The White Sox committed three errors in losing for the eighth time in 12 games.

Indians 7, Tigers 6

In Detroit, Ubaldo Jimenez outpitched Justin Verlander, and Cleveland's Chris Perez got Miguel Cabrera to hit a game-ending groundout with two on to preserve the Indians' win over the Tigers.

Verlander (4-3) was erratic early, allowing three runs in the first two innings. He settled a bit after that, but the Indians took a 6-1 lead before Detroit closed the gap with a four-run seventh.

It was 7-5 when Perez allowed an unearned run in the ninth, but with men on first and second, Cabrera hit a weak grounder to third to end it.

It was Perez's sixth save.

Jimenez (3-2) allowed a run and three hits in six innings, striking out eight with one walk. He's won three straight starts for the first time since the Indians acquired him in a trade in 2011.

Jhonny Peralta hit a solo homer for Detroit.

Rangers 8, Astros 7

In Houston, Adrian Beltre, Nelson Cruz and Lance Berkman all homered to back another solid outing by Yu Darvish, and the Rangers held on for a win over the Astros.

Darvish (6-1) yielded three hits and three runs, leaving after the seventh with an 8-3 lead.

Matt Dominguez homered twice off Darvish.

Houston led 3-1 before it was done in by its bullpen during a six-run sixth inning by the Rangers. Cruz, who also homered on Friday night, got things going with his two-run homer off reliever Philip Humber (0-8) that tied it. Pinch-hitter David Murphy put the Rangers on top with an RBI double.

Humber, who was moved out of the rotation this week, was rocked for five hits and five runs while getting only two outs.

Athletics 4, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Josh Donaldson, Daric Barton and Brandon Moss hit solo home runs and Jarrod Parker pitched into the seventh to lead Oakland over Seattle.

Jed Lowrie had three hits and an RBI as the Athletics held on to snap a season-long five-game losing streak.

Parker (2-5) didn't give up a hit until Kelly Shoppach's two-out, two-run homer in the fifth inning. Parker did give up another two hits and a run before leaving in the seventh.

Grant Balfour pitched the ninth for his sixth save. The Mariners had runners on first and second with two outs, but Balfour got Kyle Seager to ground out to end the game.

Rays 8, Padres 7

St. Petersburg, Fla., Evan Longoria hit a two-run homer with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning off Padres closer Huston Street, rallying the Rays to a victory.

Street (0-2) retired the first two batters in the ninth before walking Ben Zobrist on a full count. Longoria followed with his ninth home run, handing Street his first blown save in nine tries this season.

The Rays won their fourth straight, coming back after Jesus Guzman's pinch-hit grand slam off Jeremy Hellickson helped San Diego overcame a 6-2 deficit in the seventh.

Cesar Ramos (1-0) got the win. The Rays moved up to .500 for the first time since April 7.

James Loney hit a two-run homer as the Rays roughed up San Diego's Burch Smith in the second inning of his major league debut. The Rays scored six runs on five hits and a couple of walks in the inning and drove Smith out of the game.

Cubs 8, Nationals 2

In Washington, Stephen Strasburg fell apart after one of third baseman Ryan Zimmerman's two errors and wound up dropping his fifth consecutive decision as the Chicago Cubs beat the Washington Nationals.

Edwin Jackson (1-5) worked into the sixth inning and hit a two-run double for good measure. He earned his first win under a $52 million, four-year contract he signed after leaving Washington as a free agent, and ended the Nationals' five-game winning streak.

Strasburg (1-5) set down Chicago's first 11 hitters, six via strikeout. But with two outs in the fifth, third baseman Zimmerman's off-target throw put a runner on. Turned out to be Strasburg's last inning, making for his shortest outing of 2013.

The NL All-Star's only win this season came April 1 on opening day against the lowly Miami Marlins.

Cardinals 3, Rockies 0

In St. Louis, Adam Wainwright took a no-hit bid into the eighth inning and wound up with a two-hitter, leading the St. Louis Cardinals over Colorado.

The Rockies had been hitless in 49 consecutive at-bats before Nolan Arenado lined a clean hit to center field with one out in the eighth. Eric Young led off Friday night's game with a broken-bat single against rookie Shelby Miller, then failed to put a runner on until Todd Helton walked with one out in the fifth inning a day later.

The 49 at-bats is the longest hitless stretch since Sept. 25-27, 1981, when the Los Angeles Dodgers went 50 at-bats without a knock, according to STATS.

Wainwright (5-2) struck out seven for his second shutout of the season and sixth of his career. The Cardinals won for the ninth time in 10 games, defeating Jhoulys Chacin (3-2).

Dodgers 7, Marlins 1

In Los Angeles, Andre Ethier had a pair of doubles among his season-high four hits, Dee Gordon hit a rare home run and Los Angeles broke an eight-game losing streak with a victory over Miami.

Hyun-Jin Ryu (4-2) allowed one run and five hits in 6 2-3 innings. The left-hander took a three-hit shutout into the seventh before Miguel Olivo homered.

Ethier's four-hit game was first since last Aug. 24-25, when he had back-to-back four-hit efforts against the Marlins at Dodger Stadium—each of which included a home run. The two-time All-Star is batting .403 against the Marlins in during his eight-year career.

Kevin Slowey (1-3) gave up five runs, 11 hits and three walks in 4 2-3 innings.

Reds 13, Brewers 7

In Cincinnati, Jay Bruce homered his first time up, then doubled twice during a seven-run burst as the Cincinnati Reds delighted a sellout crowd, battering the Milwaukee Brewers.

Six different Reds players drove in two runs each, including starting pitcher Mat Latos (4-0). The defending NL Central champions moved five games over .500 for the first time this season.

Bruce led off a five-run second that was helped by a pair of fielding mistakes by left fielder Ryan Braun. Bruce opened the seven-run third with a double off Hiram Burgos (1-1) and capped it with an RBI double that made it 12-4.

Giants 10, Braves 1

In San Francisco, Madison Bumgarner struck out a season-high 11 over seven innings, Gregor Blanco entered in the fifth as a pinch hitter and drove in four runs, and the San Francisco Giants routed the Atlanta Braves.

Bumgarner (4-1) gave up just four hits and walked two, snapping a string of four starts without a victory.

Blanco had a three-run double and triple in setting a career high for RBIs.

Paul Maholm (4-4) lasted just 4 1-3 innings and was charged with six runs on eight hits.

Phillies 3, Diamondbacks 1

In Phoenix, Cliff Lee pitched seven scoreless innings and Jimmy Rollins drove in a pair of runs and Philadelphia ended Arizona's five-game winning streak.

Domonic Brown added an RBI single in the seventh for the Phillies, who snapped a three-game losing streak.

Lee (4-2) gave up six hits, struck out three and walked two in winning consecutive road starts for the first time since August 2011.

Down 2-0, Arizona loaded the bases with two outs in the seventh before pinch-hitter Will Nieves grounded out.

Jonathan Papelbon pitched the final 1 2-3 innings for his sixth save.

Pirates 11, Mets 2

In New York, Francisco Liriano struck out nine and pitched into the sixth inning to win his debut with Pittsburgh and help the Pirates beat the New York Mets.

Jordy Mercer homered twice and Jose Tabata had four hits, including a two-run shot for the Pirates.

Liriano (1-0), returning from a broken non-throwing arm, allowed one run in 5 1-3 innings. He gave up six hits and two walks.

Jonathon Niese (2-4) tied a career high by allowing eight runs in 4 1-3 innings.

Lingmerth takes leads at stormy Players Championship

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida (AP)—A rift between Tiger Woods and Sergio Garcia attracted all the attention on a stormy day at The Players Championship while Sweden's David Lingmerth quietly went about his business and wound up atop the leaderboard on Saturday.

Lingmerth finished a wild day at TPC Sawgrass with an 8-foot eagle putt on the par-5 16th and a 10-foot birdie on the island-green 17th to reach 12-under par when the third round was suspended because of darkness. It was delayed nearly two hours because of threatening storms.

Woods, Garcia and Henrik Stenson—all former Players champions—were two shots behind. Eight players had to return Sunday morning to complete the round.

The Woods-Garcia relationship already was frosty, and an incident on the par-5 second hole was sure to add another layer of chill.

Garcia was hitting his second shot from the fairway when he was disrupted by a burst of cheers from the large crowd gathered around Woods in the trees. Garcia snapped his head over to the left and glared.

The cheer was for Woods taking a fairway metal from his bag, a risky shot because he had only a 15-foot gap to escape the woods.

During the storm delay, Garcia suggested in a television interview that Woods was the instigator.

"I wouldn't say that he didn't see that I was ready, but you do have a feel when the other guy is going to hit and right as I was in the top of the backswing, he must have pulled a 5-wood or a 3-wood and everybody started screaming. So that didn't help very much."

Woods was aware of the comments and said Garcia didn't have his facts straight.

"The marshals, they told me he already hit, so I pulled a club and was getting ready to play my shot," Woods said. "And then I hear his comments afterwards, and not real surprising that he's complaining about something."

Asked if they talked it over when play resumed, Woods replied, "We didn't do a lot of talking."

Garcia wound up making a bogey on the second hole to lose the one-shot lead he had at the start of the round. Woods pulled off his shot, and then blasted out of the bunker to about 10 feet and made birdie to take the lead.

They were on the 15th hole when play was stopped because of darkness. Woods gave a brief TV interview, and Garcia came over to shake his hand.

"He gets a lot of people following, and you have to be very careful because there's another guy playing. Sometimes you have to pay attention to what's going on because if the other guy's hitting and you do something when you're in the crowd, the crowd is going to respond and it's going to affect the other player."

Told about Woods' comment regarding Garcia complaining, the Spaniard replied, "That's fine. At least I'm true to myself. I know what I'm doing, and he can do whatever he wants."

Meanwhile, The Players Championship was shaping up to be quite a finish.

Lingmerth, who began his PGA Tourrookie season by losing in a playoff at the Humana Challenge, poured in par putts along the back nine to stay around the leaders, and then he raced by them with his eagle-birdie finish. He returns Sunday to play the 18th hole.

Stenson was the first to reach 12 under when he made a 20-foot birdie putt at the par-5 ninth, but what appeared to be a shoo-in birdie on the par-5 11th turned into a bogey when his second shot when just long and down a steep slope. It took him two chips to reach the green and he made bogey, and Stenson made another bogey on the 15th.

Jeff Maggert, who also had a share of the lead at one point early in the day, bogeyed the last hole for a 66 and was the clubhouse leader at 9-under 207. Casey Wittenberg and Ryan Palmer also were at 9-under and still had to finish their rounds.

Lee Westwood was 6-under with three holes to play. At the opening hole, he nicked a pine tree on his downswing and the club went nearly a foot past the ball, leading to double bogey.

Hunter Mahan's tee shot on the 15th hole got stuck high up in a tree, leading to double bogey, but then he rolled in an eagle putt from off the 16th green. He three-putted the 17th green for bogey and wound up with a 71, putting him at 8-under 208 with David Lynn of England, who had a 68. Lynn lost in a playoff last week at Quail Hollow.

Through all that, Woods and Garcia generated the biggest buzz.

Woods and Garcia have never had a friendly relationship. Woods was said to be put off when Garcia celebrated wildly after winning a Monday night "Battle at Bighorn" exhibition in 2000. During the 2002 U.S. Open at Bethpage Black, which Woods won wire-to-wire, Garcia complained that play should have been stopped in the second round because of the rain.

"If Tiger Woods would have been out there, it would have been called," Garcia said that day.

Saturday was the sixth time Woods and Garcia have played together in the final group on the weekend. Woods went on to win the previous five tournaments.

LADY

From Page 28

ing the team are Ginny Wu, Jasmine Che, Carey Demapan, Amy Taylor, Kimberly Sablan, Richelle Kautz, and Michelle Masga. Francis San Nicolas coached the Lady Knights and got his third championship this season after steering Mt. Carmel to a sweep in the boys and girls junior varsity divisions.

The GCA Lady Eagles, who bowed to SIS in last year's finals, 30-31, had to settle for another bridesmaid finish after their offense fell apart in the second quarter. The Lady Eagles were still in the game at the end of the first period, down by only a deuce, 10-12, but failed to light the scoreboard in the second canto and missed all their seven charities. Jazmin Rayphand, who drilled 8 of GCA's 10 points in the opening canto, muffed three free throws and Zena Demapan and Chezka De Luna both went 0-for-2 from the foul line.

Mt. Carmel made only three trips from the line and got one charity in, courtesy of Michelle Kautz, who added two more field goals, while Carey Demapan and Jan Travilla contributed two markers apiece to lift the Lady Knights to a 21-10 halftime lead. Kautz, Travilla, and Demapan stepped up in absence of Lebria, who canned two triples in the first canto before spending majority of the second quarter on the bench.

The MCS gunner then started in the third quarter and quickly took matters on her own hands, kicking off the Lady Knights offense with a triple. She went on to score 6 more points, while Kautz added 5 more, and Travilla chipped in 2 to extend their lead to 17, 37-20, with only one quarter left.

Though GCA made 10 points in the third canto, it failed to buy a basket in the first three minutes of the second half. A.J Batallones came off the bench and contributed 4 points, the same output Rayphand had in that canto. Zena Demapan scored the other 2 points of GCA.

Behind by double digits, GCA needed a major comeback to overhaul Mt. Carmel's big lead, but it could not produce baskets in streaks and time was not on its side. With COPSSA not implementing a 24-second shot clock, MCS had the luxury of running down the clock, limiting the Lady Eagles' chances for possessions, while protecting its lead.

The Lady Knights went on to keep their distance and secure the win, which Lebria capped it off with a triple in the closing seconds of the finals.

MCS 48 – Lebria 24, Travilla 11, M. Kautz 10, Demapan 3, Taylor 2, Masga 2, R. Kautz 2.

GCA 27 – Rayphand 14, Batallones 4, Canedo 3, Demapan 2, Pangelinan 2, Cristobal 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-10, 21-10, 37-20, 48-27.

LEE

From Page 28

Raulerson in the semifinals, 6-1, 6-1. In the other semis pairing, Ishikawa and Miyawaki cruised past Liza Atalig and Emily Jones in the first set, 6-1, before eking out a 7-5 win in the second set to notch the last finals berth. Jones and Atalig settled for the third place honors after beating Kaga and Raulerson in the consolation game, 6-2, 6-3.

Also winning their consolation match and finishing fifth were Ruth Park and Coume Kaga, who defeated Ellie Epley and Maria Gregoire, 6-4, 6-1.

Meanwhile, Thea Minor and Jake Lee and Robbie Schorr and Steven Goodwin won the two other doubles competitionbs.

Minor and Lee notched the U18 co-ed doubles crown after downing Daniel Park and Seiya Eda in the finals, 6-2, 6-3. Moris Villanueva and Dylan Ackerman completed the Top 3 with a classic three-set victory over Lopez and Negahr Rastguiy, 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (10-8).

In the U13 division, Schorr got his second championship in the same tournament this year after teaming up with Goodwin and earning an unbeaten record (3-0), in the round-robin contest. Schorr, who clinched the boys U12 singles crown, and Goodwin first topped Eugene Park and Gang Min Kim, 6-3, 6-1, and then downed Haruya Eda and Ken Song, 6-1, 6-2 before securing the doubles title with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Vincent Tudela and Michael Jones.

Meanwhile, the 2013 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships was the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association's last event for the 2012-2013 season and results from the five competitions will be compiled to determine the players who will represent the Commonwealth to the 2013 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament next month.

BREWERS

From Page 28

Camacho was so effective on the mound and his teammates were also on point on defense that no D-9ers runner even managed to make it to first base.

With a 10-0 advantage, the Brewers could have bagged Game 2 right away, however, the 10-run mercy rule is only in effect in the seventh inning onwards.

The D-9ers went on to break their silence at the bottom of the fourth with Isaiah Lizama making it home off a fielder's choice. However, the D-9ers failed to muster enough runs to launch a big comeback, as it drilled only one run in the sixth and two in the eighth and ninth, while the Brewers gained five more runs for enough cushion.

The Brewers ended the D-9ers' season with a 6-3 putout play on Jeremy Atalig. Before the last out, the D-9ers had already scored two runs and had runners on first and second.

Winning pitcher Camacho allowed only four hits in the last six innings and had 10 strikeouts in a no-relief job. Rabauliman only went 2-for-4 at the plate, but scored two runs and three RBIs, while his five other teammates also logged two runs apiece.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	22	13	.629	_
Baltimore	22	15	.595	1
Boston	22	15	.595	1
Tampa Bay	18	18	.500	4 1/2
Toronto	14	24	.368	9 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	20	14	.588	_
Cleveland	19	15	.559	1
Kansas City	18	15	.545	1 1/2
Minnesota	17	16	.515	2 1/2
Chicago	14	20	.412	6

West Division

Texas	23	13	.639	_
Oakland	19	19	.500	5
Seattle	17	20	.459	6 1/2
Los Angeles	14	22	.389	9
Houston	10	27	.270	13 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	21	15	.583	_
Washington	20	16	.556	1
Philadelphia	17	21	.447	5
New York	14	19	.424	5 1/2
Miami	11	26	.297	10 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	23	12	.657	_
Cincinnati	21	16	.568	3
Pittsburgh	20	16	.556	3 1/2
Milwaukee	15	19	.441	7 1/2
Chicago	14	22	.389	9 1/2

West Division

San Francisco	22	15	.595	_
Arizona	21	16	.568	1
Colorado	19	17	.528	2 1/2
San Diego	16	20	.444	5 1/2
Los Angeles	14	21	.400	7

THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida
(AP)–Scores Saturday from The Players Championship, a PGA Tour event played at the 7,215-yard, par-72 TPC Sawgrass course.

PARTIAL THIRD ROUND
(Note: Play was suspended due to darkness)

Jeff Maggert	70-71-66–207
David Lynn	72-68-68–208
Greg Chalmers	68-73-68–209
Marc Leishman	72-66-71–209
Sean O'Hair	70-71-69–210
Jeff Overton	71-70-69–210
Kevin Streelman	69-70-71–210
Steve Stricker	67-71-72–210
Jason Dufner	71-67-72–210
Louis Oosthuizen	69-75-67–211
Branden Grace	73-71-67–211
Kyle Stanley	75-68-68–211
Chris Stroud	73-69-69–211
Brendon de Jonge	72-69-70–211
Brandt Snedeker	71-69-71–211
Martin Laird	71-67-73–211
Rory McIlroy	66-72-73–211
Daniel Summerhays	69-74-69–212
Davis Love III	70-72-70–212
Andres Romero	69-72-71–212
Roberto Castro	63-78-71–212
Matt Every	70-71-71–212
Peter Hanson	70-70-72–212
Ben Crane	69-71-72–212
Jerry Kelly	71-68-73–212
Webb Simpson	67-71-74–212
Adam Scott	69-68-75–212
Angel Cabrera	74-70-69–213
Bubba Watson	73-70-70–213
James Driscoll	75-68-70–213
Zach Johnson	66-71-76–213
William McGirt	70-74-70–214
John Senden	73-70-71–214
David Hearn	72-71-71–214
Freddie Jacobson	72-71-71–214
Harris English	70-71-73–214
Luke Donald	72-69-73–214
Tim Herron	71-69-74–214
Sang-Moon Bae	68-71-75–214
Chris Kirk	70-69-75–214
Jason Day	69-75-71–215
Charley Hoffman	70-74-71–215
Jimmy Walker	72-71-72–215
Boo Weekley	71-71-73–215
John Huh	70-72-73–215
Graham DeLaet	71-70-74–215
Charles Howell III	71-67-77–215
Michael Thompson	69-75-72–216
Ricky Barnes	71-71-74–216
K.J. Choi	69-73-74–216
James Hahn	70-74-73–217
Seung-Yul Noh	70-74-73–217
Chad Campbell	71-72-74–217
Jason Bohn	68-74-75–217
Carl Pettersson	70-72-75–217
Justin Leonard	70-74-74–218
Charl Schwartzel	72-71-75–218
Martin Kaymer	73-69-76–218
Brian Davis	78-66-75–219
Padraig Harrington	68-76-75–219
Charlie Wi	74-70-75–219
Rory Sabbatini	75-68-76–219
D.A. Points	72-70-77–219
Josh Teater	72-72-76–220
Jonas Blixt	69-75-77–221
Ben Curtis	69-72-80–221
Bo Van Pelt	69-74-79–222

Leaderboard at time of suspended play

	SCORE	THRU
1. David Lingmerth	-11	16
2. Henrik Stenson	-10	15
2. Tiger Woods	-10	14
2. Sergio Garcia	-10	14
5. Jeff Maggert	-9	F
5. Hunter Mahan	-9	16
7. David Lynn	-8	F
7. Ryan Palmer	-8	15
7. Casey Wittenberg	-8	16
10. Greg Chalmers	-7	F
10. Marc Leishman	-7	F
12. Sean O'Hair	-6	F
12. Jeff Overton	-6	F
12. Kevin Streelman	-6	F
12. Steve Stricker	-6	F
12. Jason Dufner	-6	F
12. Lee Westwood	-6	15

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dollar Days remains unbeaten

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Dollar Days preserved its undefeated record in the 4th Shirley's Coffee Shop Basketball League after outlasting Saipan Apparel, 94-81, last Friday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

The league-leading team, which holds a clean 3-0 mark, was without key players Ivan Devero and Kae Bernardo, but still won after getting double figures from six of the only seven players who showed up for the second match of the night.

Bart Demapan provided consistent offense for Dollar Days and finished with a game-high 29 points, while Jun Pantaleon, Christian Devero and Brandon Talania filled the void left by Ivan Devero, as the trio combined for 41 markers. Jawn Joyner also stepped up for Kae Bernardo, adding 13 markers, while point guard Wowie Abuel completed the balance offense with his 15 points.

Pantaleon and Talania's baskets in the fourth quarter halted the rally of Saipan Apparel, which moved to within 2 off Ed Diaz's triple, 75-78, with still 4:25 left in the game. Talania then answered with a short jumper, while Pantaleon capped a short 7-0 run with another jumper and an and-1 play to bring the Dollar Days lead back to twin digits, 85-75, going into the final three minutes of play.

Saipan Apparel's Ed Diaz, right, watches Dollar Days' Brandon Talania pull up for a rally halting jumper in the fourth quarter of their game in the Shirley's caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Dollar Days never looked back from thereon, as it dominated possession in the remaining minutes with its hustle plays, while Saipan Apparel opted to rush things and took several forced shots from downtown. Saipan Apparel muffed at least six treys in the closing minutes and was held to three field goals, which it made when the game was already in the bag for Dollar Days.

Saipan Apparel threatened the depleted Dollar Days in the first half, leading by as much as 8. Saipan Apparel continued to enjoy the driver's seat in the third quarter until Dollar Days held the latter down to 59 points in the last 2:30 of that canto to grab the lead, 65-59. Saipan Apparel's drought continued in the first two minutes of the fourth period before Pete Lizama made a layup. However, Dollar Days hung in there, moving the ball well and taking high-percentage shot, while Saipan Apparel pulled up for too many 3-point shots and missed a lot.

Mobil 98, Kalayaan 93

Mobil also notched its third win after edging Kalayaan. Inc in the curtain-raiser.

Marvin Rabauliman suited up for Mobil after missing the two previous games and helped his team post a come-from-behind win. The swingman scored 5 of Mobil's last 6 points to lift the team to the 5-point victory. He drilled 10 points in the fourth quarter where Mobil sizzled for 32 points to recover from a 66-73 deficit at the end of the third.

Jun Estolas started the uprising in the fourth canto, hitting two early triples. He went cold in the ensuing plays, but Fernando Muleta picked up the slack, drilling 11 of his 15 points in that quarter, while Rabauliman took over in the end. Estolas still top-scored for Mobil with his 36 points, while Rabauliman chipped in 28.

Lerio Pagarao paced Kalayaan (1-3) with his 30 points, while Sonny Lerio added 20. However, Kalayaan's top two scorers did not make any impact in the fourth quarter with Pagaro limited to two field goals and Lerio held to one charity.

First Game

Mobil 98 – Estolas 36, Rabauliman 28, Muleta 15, Ruluked 8, Gapor 8, Abuan 3.

Kalayaan, Inc. 93 – Pagarao 30, Lerio 20, Herrera 11, Ritual 10, Caro 8, R. Hernandez 5, Camacho 4, Rejano 3.

Scoring by quarters: 21-18, 41-49, 66-73, 98-93.

Second Game

Dollar Days 94 – Demapan 29, C. Devero 16, Abuel 15, Pantaleon 13, Joyner 13, Talania 112, Laquian 2.

Saipan Apparel 81 – Teregeyo 24, Lizama 21, Diaz 18, Norita 9, Barrazo 4, Babauta 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-21, 39-43, 65-59, 94-81.

SPORTS BRIEFS

PIC Dodgeball May 18

The Pacific Islands Club Dodgeball Tournament 2013 for elementary school students will be held on May 18. Only the first 16 teams to register and pay the $100 entrance fees will be allowed to compete in the weekend tournament. Each squad can have 6 to 10 players on its roster, but there must be two female members in every team. Registration and waiver forms must be submitted on or before May 16. Games will start at 9:30am with pool plays for Brackets A and B, while Brackets C and D will begin their matches at 10:30am. Each game will be played for three minutes. For more information, contact Dennis Tababa or Glenn Policare at 237-5147 or email at dennis.tababa@picsaipan.com or glenn.policare@picsaipan.com. ***(PR)***

Saipan international fishing tourney set for July

The 29th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament will get underway on July 13 and 14 with participating boats launching from the designated launching points of Smiling Cove Marina and Garapan Fishing Base. The organizing Saipan Fishermen's Association said entrance fee is $150 per boat for a captain and two crewmembers. Additional crewmen will be charged $25 each. As always, the type of fishing is trolling and participants must have their boats inspected by the Division Boating Safety first before being allowed to join the derby. For appointment, call Boating Safety at 664-9180/1/2. Launching times are 6am and 8am at Smiling Cove Marina and Garapan Fishing Base. After 8am, participating boats can only launch from the Smiling Cove Marina. ***(PR)***

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Lady Knights end title drought

◄ Mt. Carmel School players pose for a group photo after beating Grace Christian Academy, 48-27, in the finals of the girls varsity division of the 2012-2013 Coalition of Private Schools on Saipan Basketball League last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mt. Carmel School routed Grace Christian Academy, 48-27, in the winner-take-all finale of the girls varsity division of the 2012-2013 Coalition of Private Schools on Saipan Basketball League last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The win ended the Lady Knights' title drought, as they last won the girls championship in the 2008-2009 season against Saipan International School (36-32), which went on to rule the league for three straight seasons.

Nicole Lebria anchored MCS' finals win over SIS about four years ago and this time another Lebria—Kaylani—lifted the Lady Knights to the championship victory. Kaylani scored 24 points in the finals, making 18 of them in the second half to lead Mt. Carmel's breakaway. The former member of the CNMI U15 National Team nailed 15 of her total points from the 3-point area, as her sound fundamentals and good shooting hand spelled the difference in the game.

Lebria also drew enough help from Jan Travilla and Michelle Kautz, who also finished in double figures with 11 and 10 markers, respectively. Karlene Reyes failed to score in the finals, but did a good quarterbacking job for the Lady Knights. Complet-

See LADY on Page 26

Lee, Tan make champions circle

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tania Tan stretches for a baseline return, while teammate Carol Lee looks on during their girls U15 doubles title game against Julia Ishikawa and Malikawa Miyawaki in the 2013 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Carol Lee and Tania Tan made it to the champions list in the 2013 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships after winning in the girls U15 doubles finals last week at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Lee and Tan swept Julia Ishikawa and Malika Miyawaki in the title game, 6-4, 6-2. Before their championship win, both Lee and Tan fell short in their respective campaigns in the singles division. Lee marched into the semifinals of the girls U18 singles, but lost to Mikayla Lopez in three sets, 6-2, 3-6, 3-6. Tan made it all the way to the U12 singles finals, but bowed to Miyawaki , 2-6, 1-6.

Tan and Lee went on to redeem themselves in the doubles division where they did not drop a single set, as they also swept Conatsu Kaga and Asia

See LEE on Page 26

Brewers sweep D-9ers, barge into SML finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pennant champions Tan Holdings Brewers took the first finals berth in the 2013 Saipan Major League, following a 15-6 win over the D-9ers in Game 2 of their best-of-three semis series last Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Brewers, who topped Game 1, 18-8, now await the winner of the separate semis series between the defending champions Saipan Stevedore Northern Yankees and the IP&E Fielders. The Yankees won Game 1 last Wednesday, 15-4, and aim for a sweep, too, tonight.

The Brewers boosted their chances for a series sweep after a solid hitting in the first three innings and a steady performance on the mound from Tom Camacho. The pennant champions took a 2-0 lead at the top of the first off Nokki Saralu's two-run homer and added five more in the second, getting four unearned runs and one from a Jun Rabauliman's sacrifice fly. A Rabauliman two-RB double and one more run off the D-9ers' error game the Brewers a commanding 10-0 lead, as Camacho continued to silence their foes.

The Brewers pitcher allowed no hits in the first three innings and struck out five, recording three straight strikeouts at the bottom of the second inning.

See BREWERS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tan Holdings Brewers' Manny Sablan waits for the pitch from the D-9ers during the top of the fifth inning of Game 2 of their SML semis series last Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.